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The Icelandic Canadian

Vol. 10

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No. 4

Guest Editorials

Birthday Message to The Icelandic Canadian

Some of us, at one time, decided to leave Iceland, or our parents decided that for us, and we settled in this country—our present home. We had some idea that we must do well by our new country, but if we had the right attitude we gave ourselves to the new land wholeheartedly—that is—we did not throw any part of our good selves away. All the good we had gathered into our souls in Iceland we kept, cherished, used and developed in this new country of ours. That heritage was exceedingly beneficial to us in the new land of our adoption which was receiving our devotion. But our love for Iceland did not fade. We kept it as a treasure, and neither of our loves usurped the other.

If anyone does not know what I mean by this, let him get acquainted with the Icelandic Canadian Club and its Magazine. Then he will see how the two loves can be in perfect harmony. There was a time when some of us thought that Iceland was the one and only country for us; while others gave their whole devotion to the new land—Canada or the United States. But you are at the crossroads. You have found the perfect balance, and are devoting your artistic efforts with a faithful loyalty to the finest ideals of noble living with what inspiration may be found in America and in Iceland. The worthwhile work of this project has been carried on by your editor and staff

with unselfish devotion and great skill, and with an understanding of cultural values, and with vision.

That is the proper attitude. We all hope that our youth of Icelandic stock in this country may be warmed by things Icelandic that are really valuable, may appreciate her literary treasures and may if possible retain and cherish our beautiful language, but all such education must be guided by tolerance and based on friendship and understanding.

At the crossroads of which I have been speaking, a most outstanding movement is now being consummated—the establishment and endowment of a Chair in Icelandic language and literature at the University of Manitoba. It is very pleasant to know that this has been accomplished through the generosity of Icelanders all over America, aided by the most friendly co-operation of the president of the University concerned. The participation of the Government of Iceland and other friends of this cause in the Old Land signifies the marvellous unanimity which has prevailed regarding this project, among all Icelanders in North America and in Iceland. In this movement the Icelandic Canadian Club had its noble share.

The first incumbent of the Chair, Prof. Finnbogi Gudmundsson, who was selected by the president of the University of Iceland, because of his fitness

for this position, is now getting ready for his next year's work—his first year of teaching at the University. May God inspire and bless his work!

So the links of this cultural chain

are being welded by many forces which will make it strong and lasting and beautiful. May the Icelandic Canadian continue to advance in its noble ideals and splendid accomplishments.

Rúnólfur Marteinsson.

Ten Years Ago

Ten years ago some arguments were going on among the Icelanders. They were discussing the new magazine which just appeared, "The Icelandic Canadian."

Everybody agreed that the youngster was a lively and healthy looking one. But in spite of that some people predicted that he would not live long: "Look how short-lived our Icelandic papers and magazines have been," said one, and looked very wise. "Out of the twenty that have been started, only three are alive—"Heimskringla," "Lögborg" and "Sameiningin"—the others are all dead, all 'starved to death'."

"Yes, this is true," said another one, "but it may be different with this one. The others had to depend entirely on the support from the Icelanders; this one may be able to appeal to quite a number of people outside the Icelandic circle, and perhaps secure some support from them."

"And there is another thing yet," said the third one. "The Icelandic papers did not even have the support from all the Icelanders, but only the older generation. This one will have its main support from the younger ones. And remember what Thorsteinn Erlingsson said:

"If youth will give you a helping hand, on progress you may be counting."

"Oh, this is just a bubble," said still another one. "It will burst before long."

"I do not believe it," said a boy about sixteen. "I think the young

people will organize a strong circle around this paper; we will work for it, speak for it, write for it, contribute to it financially, and support it in every way."

"Yes, we certainly will," said another boy about 18 years old. "We will make it grow in strength and influence. It will become the real interpreter between the Icelanders and the English-speaking people, making the Icelandic literature known and admired in the English-speaking world. We will work like Trojans to keep it going and growing."

Ten years ago you would have heard an argument similar to the above one; not verbatim as it is put here, but along similar lines.

But The Icelandic Canadian has certainly been "going and growing," as the boy expressed it.

There is no argument any more: only admiration. The young people have applied themselves to the task with an evident determination. And they have not been alone. Many influential people of the middle-age class have co-operated with the young ones, and some of them have been and are among our literary lights. This is as it should be. Sincerity, unselfishness, hard work, pride, sacrifice—these are the powerful pillars of true co-operation, and that kind of co-operation has been and is the rock on which The Icelandic Canadian is permanently established.

Sig. Júl. Jóhannesson.

A Gift of Periodicals and Papers from Iceland

Prof. Finnbogi Guðmundsson

Last November a very strange but remarkable cargo arrived at the University of Manitoba: 41 boxes of Icelandic periodicals and papers, weighing altogether three tons. When examined these proved to be a gift to the University from Reverend Einar Sturlaugsson of Patreksfjörður in Iceland.

Before giving a preliminary description of the contents of these boxes, I would like to say a few words about the donor.

He was born on March 21st, 1902, at Þiðriksvellir in Steingrímsfjörður in the Northwestern part of Iceland. He matriculated in Reykjavík in 1926 and took his degree in theology at the University of Iceland in 1930. He has twice been abroad for further studies, in Scandinavia, Germany and England. He became a pastor in Patreksfjörður in 1930 and has served there ever since. From 1945 he has been a dean in his district (Barðastrandarprófasterðaemi).

As early as 1931 or 1932 he began his collection of Icelandic periodicals and



REV. EINAR STURLAUGSSON

papers. He did not perhaps at that time realize what proportions this venture would assume. However, 17 years later he had in his possession one of the best private collections in that field in Iceland. He had spent most of his spare time at this, travelled far and wide in the country, written hun-

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dreds of letters in order to complete his sets.

When he heard that an Icelandic chair was being established at the University of Manitoba through the initiative and effort of the Icelanders in America, he felt that he would like to make a personal contribution to this enterprise by donating his valuable collection to the University.

He spent the whole of last summer in packing and cataloguing it, and now it has, as said before, arrived safely in Winnipeg.

Even though the boxes will not be unpacked until the new University library, which is now being built, has been completed, it is possible through Rev. Sturlaugsson's catalogue to see what is in his collection.

There are around 872 different periodicals and papers, of which some 513 are complete. Altogether the collection is approximately 4,000 volumes (volume = one year's edition). These volumes are printed in a period extending over 153 years, that is 1796-1948. They are for the most part printed in Iceland and in Icelandic, the two main places of such publications outside Iceland being Copenhagen and Winnipeg. A few are in foreign languages, printed either in Iceland or abroad, and a few are mimeographed.

It would be interesting to know how many Icelandic periodicals and papers have been published from the beginning, but no such list is available. A rough estimate, which has been made, shows that there must be more than 1,000. There may be in some cases a doubt as to what is to be classified as a periodical or a paper, but that would never make much difference.

The main work on the Icelandic periodical literature is Professor Hall-dór Hermannsson's *Islandica*, vol. XI

(1918), where he writes about this literature down to the year 1874.

He shows first, how "conditions in Iceland in earlier times were especially unfavorable to all literary co-operation, to the flourishing of societies or publishing of periodicals. The country was large and thinly populated; communications between the different districts were carried on over very poor roads, which more properly might be called paths or trails, and on which only the sure-footed Icelandic ponies could be used as beasts of burden; carriages were unknown and coastwise sailings undreamt of. Such were the difficulties with which the inhabitants had to contend in this respect, that goods which were to go from one part of the country to another were sometimes sent by way of Copenhagen, since from there all the merchant vessels sailed for the various ports in Iceland. Regular mail service between Denmark and Iceland was not established until 1786, and for a long time the mail vessel made only one or two trips annually. Shortly before 1780 four overland mail routes, for letters only, were decided upon, but the scheduled trips were not carried out with any regularity. A really organized mail service within the country can hardly be said to have been established until the latter half of the nineteenth century; and in the early mail regulations no provision is made for the carrying of papers or collecting of subscriptions. There was no administrative or commercial centre within the country."

But in spite of these and many other difficulties there had as early as 1874 been published more than 50 periodicals, the history of which Hermannsson relates in his clear and pleasant style. Summing up at the end, he says, among other things:

"I have now briefly reviewed the

Icelandic periodicals from the beginning down to the last quarter of the nineteenth century. They are some fifty in number, and many of them were not of much consequence, nor did most of them have a long existence. Nevertheless, taken as a whole, this periodical literature is noteworthy. By analyzing it, we can see how the nation, after a long era of stagnation and foreign rule, gradually raised its head, became conscious of itself and concentrated its effort upon reforms and progress with the ultimate aim of regaining its independence."

If we look at the oldest periodicals, we see that the earliest one is the report of the yearly sessions of the Alþing at Þingvellir, which was printed for the first time at Skálholt in 1696 under the title of *Alþingisbókin*—this being changed after 1743 to that of *Löggþingisbókin*.

Now this report must be very rare, at least Rev. Sturlaugsson has not any part of it in his collection. If we compare his catalogue with the 54 periodicals reviewed in Hermannsson's monograph we find that Rev. Sturlaugsson has got 15 complete periodicals and 17 defective. That is, I am sure, a very good result, if we remember how very rare many of those older periodicals are and at what a late date he began collecting them.

Among the complete ones are such important publications as: *Fjölnir*, *Búnaðarrit Suðuramtsins*, *Gestur Vestfirðingur*, *Skýrslur um landshagi á Íslandi*, *Ný sumargjöf*, *Heilbrigðistíðindi*, but defective are for instance: *Minnisverð tíðindi*, *Klausturþósturinn*, *Skírnir*, *Ný félagsrit*, *Reykjavíkurstóurinn*, *Íslendingur*, *Norðanfari*, etc.

Hermannsson ended his monograph by saying: "The year 1874 may be considered as a turning point in this literature; not that the change was im-

mediately noticeable; it came on slowly as political, economic, and literary conditions were modified and altered, and as there were brought to the front new problems, new papers, and new men."

The great strides made in the field of periodical publications after 1874 become apparent when we consider that in the one year 1900 there were published almost 40 periodicals and papers, in 1910 more than 50, in 1920 between 70 and 80, in 1940 around 170, in 1944 177, in 1948 195 and 207 in 1949.

The average duration of the Icelandic periodicals and papers is not very long. They spring up like mushrooms, many of them, and fade away before we know. But that is not the case with all of them, for some have enjoyed a long and full life and are showing no marks of decay. *Skírnir* for instance, the annual of the Literary Society of Iceland, was established in 1827 and has now appeared for the 125th consecutive year. *Ísafold* has been appearing since 1874, most of the time as a weekly. The oldest theological periodical still being published is *Sameiningin*, established in Winnipeg 1885 and has been printed there ever since, first as a monthly, but the last few years as a quarterly. *Vísir* is the oldest daily paper, founded in 1910.

If we say that the total number of Icelandic periodicals and papers from the beginning is somewhat over 1000, Rev. Sturlaugsson has got the half of that number in complete sets and around 360 defective.

Before the arrival of Rev. Sturlaugsson's gift, the Icelandic library at the University of Manitoba consisted mainly of three large donations, the library of the Jón Bjarnason's Academy, the library of Arnljótur B. Olson, and publications printed in Ice-

land since 1940, this last presented by the government of Iceland.

In these collections there are of course many periodicals and papers, by means of which some of the gaps in Rev. Sturlaugsson's files may be filled. But since the Icelandic library has so far not been properly catalogued, I am at this stage not able to give any exact information about its holdings of Icelandic periodicals and papers. But just to give those, who have some knowledge of this literature, an idea of the importance and value of Rev. Sturlaugsson's collection, I want to name the titles of some of its complete sets, in addition to those already mentioned:

Aldamót, Almanak Þjóðvinafélagsins, Andvari, Árbók Ferðafélags Íslands, Ársrit Fræðafélagsins, Blanda, Dagskrá (1896-98), Dýravinurinn, Eimreiðin, Freyr, Helgafell, Hagtíðindi, Íðunn (all three), Kirkjublaðið (1891-

97), Kirkjuritið, Lesbók Morgunblaðsins, Læknablaðið, Lögréttá, Menntamál, Náttúrufræðingurinn, Nýtt Kirkjublað, Óðinn, Prestafélagsritið, Safn Fræðafélagsins, Saga, Skinfaxi, Spegillinn, Sunnanfari, Tímarit Bómenntafélagsins, Tímarit Máls og menningar, Tímarit Þjóðræknisfélags Íslendinga, Vaka (1927-29).

Most of us would be satisfied with these efforts, but Rev. Sturlaugsson looks at it differently. He is still collecting and wants to help us to complete as many sets as possible.

Everybody who studies the history of Iceland, its literature and various spheres of activity for the last 200 years, knows what an important place the periodical literature fills. It is the periodical literature that holds a mirror up to the national life, revealing broad tendencies as well as details of daily life; in other words all those things that make up the history of a nation.



What Is His Name?

(A Children's Poem)

I know a little fellow
With crop of golden hair;
I play along the sidewalk
And meet him often there.

And when the sun is shining,
He always smiles at me.
I like that little fellow,
He's nice as nice can be.

But when it's cold and rainy
A clever chap is he—
He kind of shrinks together,
And hides himself from me.

He goes to sleep at sunset,
He wakens up at dawn;
My father's always busy
To keep him off the lawn.

He hates the cold and darkness,
He loves the heat and light.
When he grows old and feeble,
His golden hair turns white.

Of course I know this fellow—
Myself—but all the same:
You tell me all about him
And spell me out his name.

Sig. Júl. Jóhannesson.

PARASITES—Big and Small

By I. Gilbert Arnason

It is interesting to contemplate how dependent all life, both on land and in the waters, is upon sunlight. The sun, which is the center of our solar system, gives heat and light without which the earth would be cold and lifeless. Not that we human beings can absorb the sunlight directly and use it to operate our own machinery. For utilizing sunlight we are entirely dependent upon green plants. The green plants contain a green coloring matter called chlorophyll, by means of which they are able to build up carbon dioxide and water to form sugar, using energy supplied by sunlight. From sugar the plant can then make starches and fats. Next the plant combines sugar with mineral salts and builds up proteins, and finally combines proteins to build up the living material or protoplasm of the plant cells.

Chemists have succeeded in determining the chemical composition of sugars and starches, of fats and of many proteins, but the composition of living material or protoplasm is still an unsolved mystery.

We human beings, and higher animals in general, either eat plants directly or we eat other animals that eat plants. If we eat a steak we are eating flesh that came from a cow that ate grass. The cow has converted the proteins of grass into the much more appetizing proteins of its own flesh. The cow acts as the middleman in this process. We thus see the truth of the biblical statement that "All flesh is grass." In other words all animals are ultimately dependent on green plants for their basic food supply, and plants in turn depend on sunlight which provides the basic energy.

While all animals are dependent in this sense upon plants, yet we human beings, and higher animals, in general, do achieve a considerable amount of independence. We move about, we digest our own food, and in general we perform a great many independent functions. There are, however, many animals that cannot live independently. They have become parasites on or in the bodies of other animals. Lice are external parasites on the bodies of humans, while the malarial parasite is a one-celled animal that enters the body when an infected mosquito bites, and this one-celled animal (*Plasmodium falciparum*) multiplies within the red blood cells of humans. (And remember that human red blood cells are shaped like coins and are only about $1/3000$ " across). The fever of malaria is due to waste products released when red blood cells break down and release the parasites once more into the blood stream. The parasites promptly bore into more red blood cells and continue the infection.

Turning to life in the waters of lakes, rivers and oceans, we find much the same setup as on land. The basic food producers are tiny plants of which the most important are the **diatoms**, microscopic one-celled plants. These do the same job of using energy of sunlight to convert carbon dioxide and water, and mineral salts into foods for themselves and for building new cells. So numerous are the diatoms that Kofoid found their average number in the waters of the Illinois River to be about 33,000,000 per cubic yard. Feeding on plants, especially on these tiny diatoms, are various groups of small animals including midge larvae and

Mayflies (Fishflies). The most important group of animals feeding on water plants, and roughly corresponding to cattle on land, are tiny animals called Crustacea. Everyone knows about larger Crustacea like shrimps and lobsters, but the tiny Crustacea are not so well known. Some of the more common are the fairy shrimps and the water fleas. Other Crustacea not so well known are the Ostrocods which have hinged shells like an oyster, and the copepods little animals with bodies shaped somewhat like a carrot and ranging in size from less than $1/25''$ in length up to about $\frac{1}{4}''$ or longer. The tiny Crustacea are the chief food of many fishes, some of which are small like the minnows, while others are large like the paddlefish. Some paddlefish have been reported as weighing up to 163 pounds. Other fish like pike feed on Crustacea when they are very young, but when they grow up they feed on fish such as tullibees. The tullibees, in turn, feed on Crustacea. So directly or indirectly tiny Crustacea are the chief food of all fishes.

Turning to the parasites of fishes, I wish to deal briefly with two of the tapeworms. The first is the pike-tullibee tapeworm that has greatly affected our fishing industry by eliminating our market for tullibees in the United States. This has meant a considerable loss to Manitoba fishermen. The pike-tullibee tapeworm passes through several stages, the adult or full-grown stage occurring in the intestine of the common pike. The tapeworm, which entered the pike during the early summer as a result of eating tullibees, grows slowly throughout the fall and winter, and by February or March has reached a length of from eight inches to over a foot and nearly a quarter inch in breadth at the widest point. About the end of April or the middle of May

the tapeworm is busy laying eggs which pass off with the wastes of pike to enter the lake water. And remember that a tapeworm is a hermaphrodite. It produces both eggs and sperms, and so it fertilizes its own eggs. Each tapeworm lays about a million and a quarter eggs. After laying its eggs the tapeworm shrinks to less than half its former size; it then breaks up and passes off with the wastes of the pike and dies. This tapeworm (*Triaenophorus crassus*) is, therefore, an annual, that is it completes its life cycle in one year and dies.

The eggs laid by the tapeworm are shaped like hens' eggs and are very tiny. Each egg is about $1/400''$ long and about $1/600''$ wide. At one end of the egg is a little trapdoor. Inside the egg the little embryo moves about at first slowly, and then more and more rapidly. Finally it bunches itself together at the wide end of the egg and hurls itself violently at the trap-door which is at the narrow end. The door is flung back and the little embryo squeezes its way out through the opening and into the lake water. At first it is about the same size as the egg, but soon swells to about twice the size, i.e. it gets to be about $1/200''$ long. At this stage it is called coracidium. The coracidium has tiny hairlike projections all over its outer jelly-like covering. These hairlike projections beat the water like paddles and enable it to swim.

Now we have swimming about in the lake water tiny Crustacea, which are constantly looking for food. One of these is a little carrot-shaped animal about $1/25''$ long. It is called a Cyclops because it is supposed to have one eye. Actually it has two very close together so that they look like one. Let us suppose that a coracidium comes paddling

along close enough to be snapped up by a Cyclops, and gets swallowed and enters the stomach of the Cyclops. If it is not in the stomach of the right kind of Cyclops the coracidium gives up the ghost and is digested. It is very particular, as are many parasites. It would die rather than use any but the right kind of Cyclops. But if the coracidium finds itself in the stomach of the right kind of Cyclops, which is called *Cyclops bicuspidatus*, then it sheds its outer jelly-like covering. It takes off its kid-gloves, as it were. It unleashes six hooks and begins busily tearing a hole in the Cyclops' stomach, which meanwhile quivers with pain. Through the hole it has made it crawls and gets into the body cavity of the host. The hooks being no further use are separated off into a little ball at the front end of the body. The young parasite in the body cavity of the Cyclops grows until it is about 1/50" long, a worm which is fairly broad in proportion to its length, and which stretches nearly half the length of the Cyclops. It is now called a procercoid. Now having gone as far as it can go in the Cyclops it rests and waits for the Cyclops to be eaten by a tullibee. No other fish will do with the exception of whitefish which may sometimes serve the purpose. We see again how particular the parasite is.

If the infested Cyclops is eaten by a tullibee, as the stomach juices of the fish digest the Cyclops the procercoid is released into the stomach cavity of the tullibee. The procercoid has no hooks to tear through the stomach wall of the tullibee but it has a gland at the hinder end of the body. This gland produces a fluid that eats away or dissolves the tissues of the stomach wall. Or if the procercoid has passed through the stomach of the tullibee into the intestine, it eats away the

wall of the gut in the same way. After eating its way through the stomach or gut wall of the tullibee the parasite crawls through the body cavity and enters the flesh of the back. It grows to be about 4" long. It now begins to look more like a tapeworm again. As it moves about the parasite irritates the flesh of the tullibee, and causes it to form a coating or wall around the worm. This coating completely encloses the worm and is called a cyst. The worm inside the cyst is called a plerocercoid. The inside of the cyst also contains a thick whitish or creamy liquid. This consists of waste matter from the worm and broken down cell material from the tullibee. By the time the cysts are formed in the tullibee it is some time in July or about two to three months since the eggs of the tapeworm are laid.

Again the parasite rests and waits for the tullibee to be eaten by a pike. A pickerel or a perch will not do for the parasite. Again it is particular. If the tullibee is eaten by a pike, as the tullibee is digested in the stomach and intestine of the pike, the cyst wall around the parasite is dissolved and out it comes. It has developed a head with four three-pronged hooks and two suckers. With these it burrows into the wall of the pike's gut and grows during the fall and winter, so that it will be able to lay its million and a quarter eggs next April or May.

We have, therefore, the following stages: First the adult tapeworm in the pike intestine, which lays its eggs in April or May, often under the ice, and then dies. Second, as the egg hatches, we have a little hairy ball about 1/200" long swimming about in the lake water, which must be eaten by a certain Cyclops in order to develop. If it gets into the right Cyclops, it digs through its stomach and forms

a worm about 1/50" long. Next this Cyclops must be eaten by a tullibee. If it is, the little worm digs through the stomach of the tullibee and reaches the tullibee's back. Here it grows to be a big worm about four inches long, and becomes covered with a coating called a cyst. Next the tullibee must be eaten by a pike in order to produce the adult tapeworm again.

Perhaps one of the first questions that might concern us is whether a human being who ate tulibees might become infected. The answer is no. The worms in the tullibee are harmless to humans. But I will turn next to the study of a tapeworm which is a human parasite.

The second tapeworm I wish to discuss is known as the "broad" or "fish" tapeworm. It is the largest and also the most injurious tapeworm to which human beings are subject. In Manitoba this tapeworm is thought to have been introduced by Finns or Scandinavians. The adult tapeworm in the intestine of man may grow to be from 10' to 60' long and become over 3/4" broad at the wide end. A single worm may produce 36,000 eggs daily and it may continue to live for years. The eggs are shaped somewhat like those of the pike-tullibee tapeworm but are somewhat broader. The eggs may get into rivers or lakes if raw sewage is dumped directly into their waters. Stages of development are similar to

those already mentioned for the pike-tullibee tapeworm:

1. Egg hatches to form a coracidium which must enter a certain copepod to form a procercoid. In Manitoba the copepod in which I have found the procercoid of this tapeworm is called *Diaptomus oregonensis*.

2. The *Diaptomus* must be eaten by a pike or pickerel. Since pike and pickerel do not feed on copepods themselves, they probably ingest them in the stomachs of the smaller fish on which they prey.

3. If the infected *Diaptomus* gets into the stomach of a pike or pickerel the parasite crawls through the wall of the stomach and forms a plerocercoid which may lie anywhere in the body of the fish. Human beings become infected as a result of eating imperfectly cooked flesh or roe of infected fish, or from conveying small plerocercoids to the mouth by the hands, to which they cling while fish is being cleaned. Finns also serve raw fish with sour milk, and sometimes fishermen eat it with a sprinkling of salt after removing the skin.

Allow me to point out again the importance of tiny Crustacea, the cattle of the waters, which, themselves feeding on tiny plants, form the chief food of fishes. Crustacea are also, as we have seen, the first intermediate hosts for some tapeworm infections.

WINS SILVER CUP

Lyall Moore, 14-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Moore of Wynyard, Sask., was awarded a silver cup for first place in public school public speaking contest held at Foam Lake last year. The contest was held in conjunction with the Bryant oratory contest under the auspices of the Foam Lake Superintendency High School

Teachers' Local.

Speaking on the same subject, "The Migration of Birds," which won him first place in the local competition, Lyall topped entries from Theodore, Sheho, Foam Lake and Elfros with his brilliant oratory. His mother, Victoria, is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Halldorson of Burnaby, B.C. (see article on Dr. Holly Halldorson).

Our Magazine: Ten Years

By W. Kristjanson

The Icelandic Canadian Magazine, an English language quarterly founded in 1942, has been the most ambitious project of the Icelandic Canadian Club. It is a voluntary effort on the part of staff and contributors, which has grown rapidly with the years. The first issues numbered 40 pages; recent ones, 64 to 72 pages. The standard has been high from the beginning, with increased color and variety, as well as volume, in later years.

The founding of the Magazine is a significant event in the story of the Icelandic people on this side of the Atlantic. The founders, realizing that if the Icelandic literary heritage is to be passed on to the rising generations, it must be chiefly through the medium of the English language, have made the first concerted move in this direction.

The policy of the Magazine as laid down (Icelandic Canadian Magazine, Vol. I, No. 2, page 16) is:

1) To assist in making the things of value in our Icelandic heritage a living part of ourselves as Canadian citizens and thus improve the quality of our contribution to the distinctively Canadian pattern.

2) To provide an instrument by which the children of our ever increasing mixed marriages may be reached, and through which we would seek to instil in them a better knowledge and a keener appreciation of our heritage.

3) To provide a means whereby Canadians of Icelandic extraction, pure or mixed, can become better acquainted with each other and thus strengthen the common bond of the past which in itself will strengthen the common bond

of the future in the larger Canadian scene.

4) To stimulate greater effort by making known to our readers the contributions of Icelandic Canadians to the highest and best type of citizenship.

5) To place before the people of Canada and particularly the other ethnic groups, our interpretation of the position we should take as Canadian citizens, and thus contribute to Canadian unity by helping to form a common basis of approach.

The policy as laid down has been adhered to, and new features have been added. The Magazine has received such a warm welcome in the Icelandic communities in the United States, and in Iceland, that it has virtually become all-Icelandic American, and serves as a three way link between the Icelandic communities, north and south of the border and Iceland. Furthermore, the Magazine serves as a valuable medium of literary expression and it constitutes an invaluable historical record.

The distribution of the subscription, and, incidentally, the wide geographic coverage of the magazine is shown by an analysis of the circulation figures, roughly one-fourth of the subscribers being in Winnipeg, one-fourth in rural Manitoba, one-fourth in other provinces of Canada, and one-fourth in the United States. The list of subscribers in Iceland is small but it is a select one.

The first steps towards publication were tentative, taken more in hope than confidence of permanent achievement. First there was talk of a mimeo-

graphed magazine. Then an English column in the Icelandic weeklies in Winnipeg was maintained for about a year. Chiefly through the initiative and persistence of the circulation manager for the ten years of publication, Hjalmur F. Danielson, a printed magazine was launched, the first number appearing October 1, 1942.

Editor-in-chief of the magazine from October 1942 to December 1943, was the novelist, Laura Goodman Salverson with three associate editors. Since then the editorial board has consisted of five members who in turn have contributed leading articles. Heading the board as editor from March 1944 to March 1947, was Judge W. J. Lindal, who was followed by Holmfridur Danielson. She has held that position since, for more than five years.

As a result of the various members of the board sharing the work of writing leading articles, the editorial writings have followed no set pattern since the time of Mrs. Salverson, who in addition to featuring certain ancient Norse themes, stressed the demoralizing effects of war, hunger, suffering, and fear.

Many of the editorials, however, have had certain basically kindred themes, such as bridging the Atlantic, Canadian citizenship, and modern educational trends. Furthermore, several fairly constant contributors over the period of years have made for a consistency of tone and atmosphere. Judge Lindal has throughout emphasized the Icelandic heritage and bridging the Atlantic; Canadian Citizenship; the importance of the individual, the victory of ideas, and the potential world significance of the evolving Canadian national pattern, with each ethnic group making its contribution to a harmonious and colorful whole.

The Icelandic Chair at the Univer-

sity of Manitoba has received continued and extensive publicity in connection with the campaign for raising the endowment fund for the Chair, stressing the value of the Icelandic language and literature. This publicity has been most valuable, reaching thousands of readers not subscribing to Icelandic language periodicals.

History is featured prominently, there being about thirty-five articles in this field, many of them of considerable length. They include such topics as the Icelandic settlements in Winnipeg, New Iceland, Argyle, Shoal Lake, and the Swan River Valley in Manitoba; the settlements in the United States; the Vinland colony; the Icelandic Brazilian venture; the problematic fourteenth century Norse exploration inland from Hudson's Bay; the Beothucks of Newfoundland; events in Ancient and Modern Icelandic history; sixty years of Icelandic Day Celebrations, as well as historical articles on the Red River Valley and on Newfoundland. Almost all these articles have involved a great deal of original research. Interesting, too, is an autobiographical sketch of a pioneer in the Peace River district.

Valuable historical material is contained in biographical sketches of people of note, and in numerous news accounts of current achievements in a great variety of fields, including learning, law, medicine, literature, music and art, science, and invention, public service, nursing, business and industry, athletics and sports, and radio. Valuable for the record, and for assessment of the contribution of people of Icelandic origin in Canada and the United States, is the War Service Record, with its pictures and account of some eleven hundred men and women who served in the Second World War. This work is still being carried on.

Apart from the war services record, over two hundred articles have been published on people of Icelandic origin in Canada and the United States, of more current nature.

Much of this historical material and the current accounts featured for their value, has not been published elsewhere, either in Icelandic or in English, and this points to the invaluable work accomplished in this field.

The literary contributions to the magazine are numerous, and the standard is high, in both prose and poetry. There are over twenty original poems on topics personal, historical, patriotic, on war, Christmas, and the common man. Translated poems also number about twenty, and here the policy of making the Icelandic literary heritage available to the English-speaking descendants of the pioneers is being carried out. The poets of Iceland and of America are equally represented in the originals, but of some twelve translators nearly all are Manitobans or former Manitobans. Outstanding are Jakabina Johnson's translations of Stephan G. Stephansson's "Verkalok" (Close of Day), and Guttormur J. Guttormson's "Góða Nótt" (Good-Night), which retain the exquisite beauty of the originals and are at the same time creative works in their own right. Professor Skuli Johnson's translation from the Latin of Tibullus preserves the beauty and dignity of the original, as does Charles Venn Pilcher's rendering of the Icelandic Millenial Hymn in fair measure.

Nine original stories are based on themes such as a blizzard on Lake Winnipeg, pioneer life, the Canadian Northland, the "stuff of dreams," and the call of the sea, while one original narrative is a true story of a Chinaman's gratitude and another is about a trench raid in the First World War.

These narratives possess a refreshing variety, a direct, lively and imaginative style, and a good measure of artistry.

Ten translations from Icelandic prose include short stories, fables, and Icelandic folklore. There are approximately forty literary reviews, some of these of magazine article length, in the field of classical and modern Icelandic, Icelandic-American and English-Canadian literature. Included are two scholarly reviews, Professor Skuli Johnson's of Saga literature, the poet-author Kvaran, and the poet, Stephan G. Stephansson; Dr. Richard Beck's review of Bishop C. Venn Pilcher's translations from the **Passion Hymns** and the 12th century "Lay of the Sun"; K. J. Austmann's review of the pioneer Icelandic-Canadian author J. Magnus Bjarnasson, and Helen Sigurdson's reviews of **The Hollow Men**, by Bruce Hutchinson and **Two Solitudes**, by Hugh McLennan. The Canadian environment is reflected in the magazine, in a number of articles in the wider Canadian field and in poetry. There is a colorful account by Dr. J. A. Bildfell of the Eskimos of Baffin Island, where he was stationed for three years as medical officer; an historical article on Newfoundland, Canada's tenth province; and another on the Red River Valley; articles on Northern Manitoba; The Manitoba Pool Elevators, holiday travelling in Canada, and the Canada Press Club, of Winnipeg.

There is a strong expression of Canadian patriotism, in prose and in poetry. The following is one of many examples selected at random. "We are Canadians. We are proud of Canada, proud of the part she is playing in the world drama of today. We want to know Canada and her people, and having that knowledge helps make her role the greater and more noble."

The patriotic poems are odes to Canada, recited at the annual Icelandic Day celebrations.

Articles and poems have been received from various parts of Canada and the United States, and there is a generous flow of information which forms the basis for many of the historical and biographical sketches. Of special interest is the material from the descendants of the Icelandic immigrants to Utah. The original settlers there maintained contact in earlier times with their compatriots to the north, through the medium of the Icelandic publications in Winnipeg and to some extent through the Icelandic Lutheran Synod, but the small Utah group has proceeded on the road to assimilation much more rapidly than the people in larger Icelandic settlements. As far as the Manitoba communities are concerned, the Utah episode had become a legend and this link through the Icelandic Canadian Magazine marks a renewal of contact and revival of interest. The Utah contribution includes seven articles of some length, many news items, and several illustrations, as compared with a little over twenty-eight long articles about other parts of the United States.

Iceland has a prominent place, with fifty informative articles, on literature, classical, mediaeval, and modern; history, ancient and modern; recent social, industrial and political developments; Iceland in wartime, through the eyes of Icelandic Canadians serving there; Iceland a member of the United Nations; music and art; handicrafts; accounts of distinguished visitors from Iceland to Canada, and numerous translations of poetry and prose. There has been a series of articles contributed by prominent people in Iceland, including: the *Glíma*, or Icelandic wrestling, by Thorsteinn Ein-

arsson, Director of Athletics in the Department of Education of Iceland; the **Eruption of Mount Hecla**, by Steinþor Sigurdson, executive head of the Research Council of Iceland, and **The Beginning of Aviation in Iceland**, by Dr. Alexander Johannesson, Rector of the University of Iceland. These articles, nearly all of which have required translation, give the people of Icelandic origin in America an impressive picture of the almost phenomenal progress in the land of their forebears, since the emigration period.

On the other hand, the people in Iceland are given a picture of the life and activities of their kins folk in America through extensive reprints and translations from the Icelandic Canadian Magazine in Icelandic papers and periodicals, as well as numerous references to items of interest in the Magazine.

Prominent contributors to the magazine, in addition to Judge Lindal, and to Holmfridur Danielson, whose wealth of contribution is marked for its cultural and human interest and vivid journalistic style, are Professor Skuli Johnson, distinguished scholar and man of letters, whose contributions include "The Realism of Early Icelandic Literature", "The Laxdæla Saga", "Einar Hjörleifsson Kvaran in Winnipeg", "Our Heritage", and "Stephan G. Stephansson"; Jakobina Johnson, whose works are marked by human sympathy, imaginative glow, and craftsmanship; Caroline Gunnarson, equally at home in prose and poetry, whose short stories are marked by psychological insight, artistic structure, and lively style; W. Kristjanson, with eight contributions of some length, mainly historical, including: "The Influence of Environment on the Icelandic People in Winnipeg", "Shoal Lake Sketches", and "Boat Race

at Oxford"; Jon J. Bildfell, with his articles on the early Icelandic settlers in Winnipeg; Dr. Tryggvi Oleson with his articles on Snorri Sturluson, the Icelandic settlement in Argyle and others; Dr. R. Beck, with historical articles and literary reviews; Prof. Finnbogi Guðmundsson's "A Chest of Books" is an imaginative treatment of the profound influence of literature on Icelandic life, and Dr. Askell Löve has a scholarly research article on the geographic references in the Saga accounts of **Vinland**, as a means of locating precisely the first Icelandic settlement in America. Bertha Danielson's stories of the Canadian North are such as have won her professional status elsewhere.

Almost all the contributors to the Icelandic Canadian Magazine have been bilingual, and the Magazine illustrates the interest and value of possessing a key to two such treasure troves as are contained in the English and Icelandic literature. There is good prospect of the maintenance of the present type of work for a number

of years to come, but how many is problematical. Meanwhile the founding of the Chair in Icelandic Studies at the University of Manitoba holds out a promise of support from a new quarter. The co-operation between the incumbent of the Chair and the Magazine seems logical, and should prove highly beneficial to both.

The contribution of the Icelandic Canadian Club will be better assayed in retrospect after a period of years. On the occasion of his being made honorary life member of the Club, Professor S. K. Hall said he considered the Club the salvation of the Icelandic heritage here. Another honorary life member, Dr. Sig Jul. Johannesson, has expressed the thought that the Icelandic Chair and the Icelandic Canadian Magazine constitute two life insurance policies for the preservation of Icelandic culture on this continent. All this is to be viewed as a contribution to our country, Canada, and also to the United States, because of the international scope of the Magazine.

Prominent Dentist in Toronto

One of the foremost of the Icelanders who are engaged in the profession of dentistry here in Canada, who has gained important recognition and prominence in that field of science, but whose activities have not been brought to the knowledge of the Icelandic people in general up to the present time is Dr. Holly Halderson, D.D.S., of Toronto, Ontario. He has conducted a very successful practise of dentistry since he graduated from the Dental College in that city June 6, 1930.

Dr. Halderson specialized in the

specific dental branch known as orthodontia. During the last three or four years he has also been a teacher and superintendent of the Orthodontia Division of said Dental College.

He is held in high regard by his professional colleagues and has for several years been the leader of the delegates sent from Canada to the annual Orthodontic and Dental conventions held in various cities in the United States. In his lectures, given at these conventions, he has presented numerous topics on

standard and research matters connected with his special branch of dentistry.

Dr. Halderson was born at Hallson, North Dakota, May 4, 1901. His parents are Halldor J. (Jonatansson) Haldorson, (from **Húki** in Miðfjörður, Húnvatnssýsla, Iceland, who came to N.D. in 1886) and his wife Cecilia (Sesselja), both now residing in South Burnaby, B.C. The family moved to Saskatchewan in the spring of 1905, where Halldor established the **Sleipnir** Post Office, and later conducted business in the town of Wynyard for many years.

At the age of 18 Holly Halderson went to Toronto, almost penniless, to finish the stages of preparatory education before starting his course at the Dental College. By working to support himself while he studied at night school he was able to establish his course and achieve his goal. His perseverance and stability through this period of struggle is a repetition of the familiar story of how the Icelandic pioneers and their children overcame almost unsurmountable obstacles to gain education, prestige and prominence.

Dr. Halderson was married in 1931 to Miss Evelyn Corner of Toronto. They have two adopted sons, and much of his leisure time is devoted to this happy family. He is also fond of sports, such as skiing in winter, and golf during the summer months. He is president of The Summit Golf Club and is also a member of a rowing club.

Dr. Halderson's christian name is Oddur Gestur. But during his College years his classmates found the name difficult to pronounce, so they streamlined it to "Holly" Halderson. However, when he takes a flying trip to visit his parents and other relatives, his boyhood name "Oddur" is promptly and agreeably restored during his sojourn with them.

Subscription Rate Goes Up

The subscription rate for The Icelandic Canadian has been raised to \$1.50 per year. This move was long overdue, as cost of printing and all materials has gone up from 60 to 75%, and in addition the Magazine has doubled in size, which tripled the cost of postage and raised the actual cost of production almost 300%.

All revenues earned by the Magazine have been turned back into the publication to make it bigger and better, over \$3,000 having been paid for cuts alone.

The Icelandic Canadian is in the happy position that it does not have to apologize for this slight advance in price, as it has from the beginning been a voluntary cultural effort. It is **not** a commercial venture for the purpose of giving a job to somebody; it is **not** a propaganda organ for any group or individuals; no one has even been high-pressured into subscribing to it—indeed we have never solicited subscriptions. The subscribers are persons interested in cultural pursuits generally, and in Icelandic culture, in particular.

The small advance in price (equivalent to about four pounds of potatoes, at the present boom prices) is not going to make any difference to that type of reader. And, as one of our correspondents said: "If it does, it is time we quenched the light and closed the shutters of our cultural efforts."

The Magazine has never been subsidized by one cent—not even by the Icelandic Canadian Club. It has been offered to the public strictly on its own merits; and the editor and staff are planning on continuing their services to the readers, in the event of a steady and growing subscription list.

Talented Artisan in North Dakota

K. P. Armann has left Gardar, North Dakota. Lured by sunlit fields, he took his easel and paint brushes to San Luis Obispo, California, where he has exhibited some of his landscape paintings at the Amateurs' Art Exhibit and also at an exhibit at Santa Barbara. Before leaving North Dakota, he had exhibited statuettes and a few pictures at the University of North Dakota by request of Prof. Paul Barr, head of the Art Department of the University.

K. P. came into prominence at the age of about twelve. Halldor Halldorson, teacher in the rural school north of Gardar, requested his pupils to make flower beds by the school house. The next morning, on his arrival, the beds were already made in the form of the two continents, North America and

South America, all gulfs and bays included. Right then the teacher pronounced Kristinn Armann a potential artist. His hand had shaped the continents.

The youth, too, dreamed of an artist's career, but the pioneer environment offered little incentive. His parents Halldor Armann and his wife Margaret Eyolfsdóttir, had come from Stórhálsi i Grafningi, Iceland, to Nova Scotia in 1878. Later they moved to Winnipeg, where they lived for two years until 1884, when they migrated to North Dakota and homesteaded east of Gardar. Soon that homestead was traded for a farm two miles west of Gardar, which became the permanent Armann residence. There their fourth son, Kristinn, was born in 1889, Thor-



"Spring Morning", by K. P. Armann

geir, Halldor and Hannes being older. A daughter, Valgerdur, now residing at Reykjavik, married to Eirikur Hjartarson, an electrician, is the youngest of the family.

"First let us educate the children," said Gardar pioneers, Halldor Armann included.

His son, Kristinn, was sent to Gustavus Adolphus College the winter of 1907-1908. There, in addition to a general course, he had instruction in drawing and took private lessons in painting. This beginning gave him inspiration to attend the Art Institute at Chicago the following two winters. By this time the older brothers had left home; Kristinn was summoned to take over the farm. There he supported his aged parents until they died, the father in 1924, the mother in 1927.

However, in making this sacrifice, Kristinn acquired a permanent helpmate. A maiden from Iceland had come to assist his mother; she was Svandis Olafsdóttir, daughter of Olafur Helgason, a goldsmith at Akureyri, and she and K. P. were married in 1914. In time the Armann residence again resounded with the mirth of five children, who are now filling responsible positions.

Bjorn, the oldest son, is a heating-ventilating engineer at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Kjartan Olafur graduated with a degree in architecture from the California Polytechnical College at San Luis Obispo and now works for a consultant engineer at San Jose, California. The three daughters all live in California, Thorey (Mrs. J. S. Johnson) at San Luis Obispo; Svanlaug (Mrs. L. J. Hughes) at Camarillo, and Anna Lara (Mrs. Donald Pabst) at San Jose.

While the children were small, the father had little time for his hobby, painting, and he soon realized that landscape painting must ever be a mere

hobby. However, his talent found expression in artistic interior decorating. Finding this work more interesting than farming, he sold the homestead about twenty years ago, moved into Gardar, and since then has earned his living by house painting and interior decorating.

Many notable results indicate Armann's artistic temperament. The farm home of J. J. Whelan near Crystal won State honors in a farm home improvement contest. The 52-year-old house was remodelled. That done, K. P. Armann did the decorating. The Grand Forks Herald featuring the face-lifting of the old home, commended the tastefully decorated rooms, particularly the dining room with its carefully blended pattern of cheering colors and a breakfast nook in modernistic design.

Another demonstration of Armann's creative ability is the log cabin recreation room in the Vic Fisher residence at Cavalier, N. Dak. There he painted landscape scenes back of set false windows. The indirect lighting gives the impression that one is looking through the windows at beautiful scenery outside.

In countless ways K. P. Armann has served his community in painting signs, stage scenery, and sketches to fit the occasion. At the Golden Jubilee of the Icelandic community in North Dakota in 1928 his sketches decorated the picnic grounds—a huge one depicting the progress from ox-cart to automobile. At that time he and the late G. B. Olgeirson collaborated in making an admirable float in the form of a Viking boat, Mr. Olgeirson doing the designing and building and Mr. Armann the decorating.

Again in 1940 these two men pooled their talents to build the monument to K. N. Julius (a noted local poet), which stands prominently in the church

yard at Eyford Church. Mr. Olgeirson designed the stone memorial and K. P. Armann moulded the half-relief bust of the poet, which was then cast in bronze and set into the stone. The

result is a monument, not only to the poet, K. N. Julius, but also proudly proclaims the artistic talent of two men of our community: G. B. Olgeirson and K. P. Armann.

Lauga Geir, Edinburg, N.D.

Wins Awards For Film Board



Gudrun Parker

The artistic achievements of Canadians rarely attract much notice beyond our borders. In one field, closely allied to the arts, Canada has nevertheless assumed world leadership. This is in the field of the documentary film, a relatively modern form of picture making, designed not for pure entertainment but rather as an effective and attractive means of instruction for young and old alike.

The agency responsible for this fine achievement is the National Film Board whose first organizer and director was Mr. John Grierson who, on

taking over as its first commissioner, was known as one of the world's ablest producers of documentary films.

Mr. Grierson is unfortunately no longer with the Film Board, but its capable staff still continues to turn out documentaries of a very high order. One of the persons now maintaining the high reputation of the Film Board is its only woman director Gudrun (Bjerring) Parker, the subject of this short sketch.

In the winter of 1942, while working as a reporter for the Winnipeg Free Press, Gudrun had occasion to interview Mr. Grierson who was travelling about the country for the purpose of organizing the Film Board. At the conclusion of the interview, Mr. Grierson suggested that she join the Board. Gudrun accepted and on March 1, 1942, she started work for the Board at Ottawa as a writer and researcher.

Some two years later Gudrun got her first chance to direct an important picture. This was *Listen to the Prairies*, a documentary on the Manitoba Music Festival. The picture was a great success and established Gudrun's reputation as a director.

Gudrun now has over fifteen pictures to her credit, some of which have won important awards both here and abroad. Her *Children's Concert*, made in 1949, won Honorable Mention in the 1949 Canadian Film awards, as well as in the Arts Class at the 1950

Venice Competition. **Opera School**, about the training of an opera singer, was screened at the Film Festival in Edinburgh and received the Canadian Film Award as the best Canadian theatrical film of 1951. **Family Circle**, produced by Gudrun and directed by her husband, Morten Parker, was awarded "Best Film in the Information Category" at the 1950 Cleveland Film Festival.

Gudrun's success with the Film Board has come as no surprise to those who followed her scholastic career. Born March 16, 1920, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. O. Bjerring, of 550 Banning Street, Winnipeg, Gudrun attended the Greenway and General Wolfe schools and the Daniel McIntyre Collegiate. While at the Daniel McIntyre she was awarded an Isbister Scholarship and the Governor-General's Medal. She was at one time the editor of the school year book and was the valedictorian of her class. On graduating she won a year's scholarship at United College, Winnipeg, and graduated with honors from that institution in 1940. In her last year at United she was Senior Lady Stick and subsequently became the president of the Women's Association, University of Manitoba.

After getting her B.A., Gudrun became a reporter for the Winnipeg Free Press, a position that she held for a year and a half or until she joined the Film Board, as mentioned above.

In 1944, Gudrun married Morten Parker, a fellow student at United College. He, too, is a well known director with the National Film Board.

The Mayfair Magazine, Montreal, in its March 1952 issue, featured an article on Gudrun Parker, written by Edward Charles .

H. Th.

TRIP TO OTTAWA



—By courtesy Winnipeg Tribune

Velma Jean Skagfjord

Miss Velma Jean Skagfjord, of Selkirk, Man., was one of 150 high school students who came to Ottawa from all across Canada, around the middle of May, for the second successful Ottawa Rotary Club "Adventures in Citizenship."

Velma was also chosen at the farewell luncheon meeting given by the Rotarians, May 22, as spokesman for her province when one student from each of the ten provinces gave their impressions of the course in citizenship arranged for them by the Rotarians.

In her well-delivered speech, Velma said that "the Archives and its historical documents were among the things that had impressed her most."

On finishing Grade XI at Central Collegiate, Selkirk, this spring, Velma was awarded the Governor-General's Medal. She is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Barney Skagfjord of Selkirk.

MAYFAIR'S NEW EDITOR

Last October the Mayfair Magazine of Toronto came under the guidance of a new editor in the person of Herbert Charles Manning, who then relinquished his post of assistant editor of Maclean's Magazine. There, after only one year's tenure of office, he had proved his fitness for this new post.

Herbert Manning is a Winnipegger, the son of Herbert Guy Manning, for 28 years with the wholesale firm of Tobin-Morrin, but now retired. On his mother's side the new editor is of the Viking breed. He was born in 1913, in Winnipeg, to Magnea Manning, daughter of Rev. Bjarni Thorarinsson, who at the turn of the century had left his charge at Útskálum, Iceland, to come to minister to the growing number of Icelandic immigrants in America. Here he served for a while in the Tjaldbuðin, in Winnipeg, and then for many years at Langruth, Man., prior to his return to his native land in 1916. Rev. Bjarni's wife, and Herbert's grandmother, was Ingibjorg Einarsdóttir, from Eyrarbakka, sister of Sigrús Einarsson, music composer of Reykjavík.

Young Herbert was not born with a silver spoon in his mouth; nor did Dame Fortune always smile on his early years. At eight years of age he fell victim to polio, which left him permanently lame—but not disheartened. As a young lad he could be seen daily on the streets of Winnipeg covering his paper route for the Winnipeg Tribune on but one good leg—the other a bit shorter and with splints in place of undeveloped muscles. Baseball he dearly loved, but active participation was denied; so he began to write about what he saw going on in the playing fields or corner lots while he longingly sat on the sidelines. After a while



HERBERT C. MANNING

some of these sports comments began to appear in the Tribune, and so started in a small way a journalistic career which made him in turn columnist, sports editor, city editor and news editor of his paper, and now editor-in-chief of Mayfair.

All this has not been achieved without much hard work and singleness of aim, and the aid of a good formal education. Kelvin High School numbers Herbert Manning on its somewhat famous roster of graduates, and he had three years at Manitoba University before the depression put an end to that. There has been in his life much of the sunshine of family bliss and professional success; but also there have been some dark clouds, as when, in 1943, his only brother fell among Canada's sky warriors and his mother became a semi-invalid from the shock—one of the many home-front casualties that are not usually tabulated in counting the cost of wars.

Now, at only 38, Manning can look forward to many years of increasing success and happiness, along with his

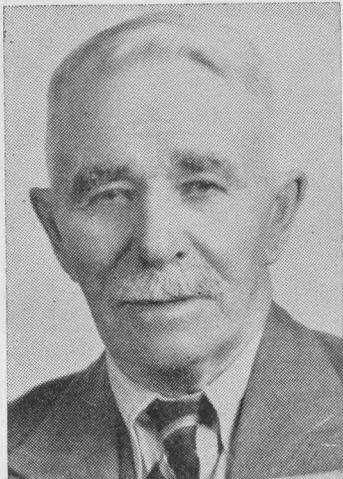
wife Dorothy (née Robinson), a Winnipeg girl, and their nine-year-old daughter, Merrilyn.

The Icelandic Canadian is pleased

to congratulate this young descendant of our people, who is making such a success of his work in an allied field.

—H. J. S.

Ofeigur Sigurdson



OFEIGUR SIGURDSON

There was a pretty important birthday celebration on April 14, 1952, when Ofeigur Sigurdson, one of the best known and most respected figures of the Red Deer district, Alberta, had the rare opportunity of blowing out ninety candles!

On the occasion of such a notable anniversary, one of the oldest of our western pioneers deserves recognition, long overdue, for the outstanding part he played in the conception and erection of that prominent monument to Icelandic-Canadian culture, the Stephan G. Stephansson memorial. In the years which followed the poet's death, awareness was growing in the little Markerville, Alberta, settlement, of the measure of this man's greatness. But seven years later it still had received no tangible expression, and the grave no marker.

Ofeigur, his friend and neighbor for

37 years, felt that the great man's final resting place, the simple burial plot by the winding river he'd loved so well, should be made into a memorial ground, a tribute, not only to the poet himself, but to the heritage of Icelandic culture which had found expression through his genius.

After consulting with the poet's family about their wishes in the matter, Ofeigur had announcements published in the Icelandic weeklies, inviting Stephan G. Stephansson's friends and admirers to contribute to the proposed memorial. Donations came in freely, and by the end of November, 1935, Ofeigur was able to announce that the monument he had so carefully planned had been erected.

Standing on a wide concrete base, the monument surrounded by a fenced-in grass plot, is a fine square pillar of granite, with an inset marble plate measuring 24 by 30 inches. On it is engraved the poet's name with date of birth and death, and below are these lines from one of his poems:

“Að hugsa ekki í árum en öldum
Að heimta ei daglaun að kvöldum,
Því svo lengist mannsæfin mest.”

Following these are the first lines of “Pótt þú langförull legðir,” in English (the Pioneer's Song, so beautifully set to music by the fine musician and composer, Prof. S. K. Hall).

In the summer of 1937, the late Dr. Rögnvaldur Petursson of Winnipeg came out to Markerville, at Ofeigur's invitation, to officiate at the unveiling of the monument.

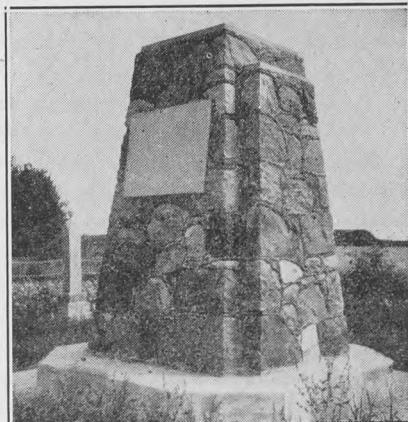
He was followed, during the next year, by many other distinguished visitors, including a member of the Icelandic Government, Jónas Jónsson (frá Hriflu) who was very much impressed with the monument, and with the amount of work and thoughtfulness that had been devoted to it by Ofeigur Sigurdson.

A few months later the Government of Iceland announced that The Order of the Falcon had been conferred on Ofeigur Sigurdsson—an honor which he richly deserved.

In a way, the attractively fenced memorial plot is a tribute to Ofeigur, the pioneer. Son of Gudrun and Sigurdur Sigurdson, he came to Canada as a young man of 25, gradually working his way west till he reached Alberta in 1889. Next spring, with his bride Astridur, he homesteaded in the Red Deer district. The little group of Icelandic settlers were tackling enthusiastically the rewarding task of clearing and fencing the land. As he improved his holdings, he acquired more, till eventually he was farming six quarter sections. Here he raised cattle, horses and sheep, put up a home and all the necessary farm buildings, and turned over between 600 and 700 acres of virgin soil.

Meanwhile, their two boys and five girls (one adopted as a three-week baby) were growing. Always active in community affairs, in 1900 Ofeigur organized the Pine Hill School, and was one of the trustees for 26 years. He served 10 years on the Lutheran Church Council and Cemetery Board, and was a member of the Markerville Road Council. Through the lean years of the depression, he was always ready to lend a helping hand to anyone in trouble, to contribute to every worthwhile cause. Astridur died in 1921.

Retired now, and wintering at the



STEPHANSSON MONUMENT

Coast, he still comes back each summer to the old homestead, owned by his grandson, Alfred Swainson. His daughters, Ena and Struna, live nearby, and quite a few of his 22 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

He still recalls with pleasure his 1930 trip to Iceland, with his second wife Kristin, and is intensely proud of his old homeland and her great traditions. Possessed of a phenomenally retentive memory for family trees and their geographic origins, one of his favorite hobbies is tracing the Icelandic connections of his compatriots in Canada.

As spry and alert as ever, he travels everywhere on his own, and astounds everyone by his pep and enthusiasm. This progressive and youthful outlook, combined with a delightful sense of humor, is one of Ofeigur Sigurdson's great charms. Like the first time I met him, a couple of years ago, when I was passing the cigarettes:

"You don't smoke, do you, Gramps?" I queried politely.

"No," he twinkled back, "not yet!"

Phoebe Thorvaldson.

(Note: Mrs. Phoebe Thorvaldson is an English war bride, married to Ofeigur Sigurdson's grandson, who served in the Canadian forces in World War II.—Editor.)

EVA CLARE AND HER ICELANDIC PUPILS

Miss Eva Clare can count among her piano students some very outstanding pianists and teachers, who have made a name for themselves in Canada, the United States and Europe. Among her roster of students one finds quite a list of Icelandic pianists who have distinguished themselves in one way or another in the field of music.

Thora Asgeirson was the most recent of her Icelandic Canadian pupils to leave Winnipeg for advanced study abroad. Frank Thorolfson, who is enjoying a distinguished record in Chicago musical circles, Snjolaug Sigurdson and Agnes Sigurdson, who have given debut recitals in New York, are also pupils of Miss Clare. Readers of the Icelandic Canadian are well acquainted with the brilliant musical career of these above mentioned students.

"My very first pupil of Icelandic descent was a Mrs. Johnson from out in Saskatchewan," says Miss Clare as she reminisces fondly about her talented students. "She was a dear girl, but was not with me very long as she moved from the city again."

At one time or another Miss Clare has had as pupils: Sigrid Olson (Mrs. B. H. Olson), who was an outstanding singer as well as pianist, accompanist, and vocal teacher; Miss Bjorg Frederickson, who is a niece of the late Rev. B. B. Jonsson, D.D., and came from the Argyle district. She was a very successful music teacher in Winnipeg for a number of years, and often directed her pupils in a variety of musical skits for the entertainment of local organizations. She is now with the Civil service in Ottawa.

Bright music students from out of town always seemed to gravitate to

Miss Clare's studio. There was Larus Bjornson from Arborg, who lives in Winnipeg and still spends many happy hours at the piano every day, although he did not make music his vocation. Sylvia Thorsteinsson (now Mrs. Oli N. Kardal, wife of the singer, who received a small bursary from the Icelandic Canadian club), has contributed richly of her musical talents to her native town, both as pianist, accompanist and choir leader. Lilja Palsson (now Mrs. Martin, of Hnausa, Man.) came from Geysir, studied diligently with Miss Clare for a while and is now contributing worthy musical efforts to the community where she lives. Also from Geysir came Lilja's cousin, Baldur Guttormsson, who is a brother of our Lilja Guttormsson (in Norway). The family is very musical, his brother Stefan, and Lilja Martin's brother Johannes Palsson both studied violin, the latter being music teacher and choir leader in his community of Geysir. Baldur served in the R. C. Navy during the war and, continuing his service, has now the rank of Lieutenant Commander.

Mrs. Bjorg Violet Isfeld, a well known music teacher in the city, (see Icelandic Canadian, Summer, 1950), has been a pupil of Miss Clare, as has Albert Stefansson, Thorbjorg Bjarnason (now Mrs. Sigfus Halldors, of Reykjavik, Iceland) and Ragnar H. Ragnar who went back to Iceland to teach music after a number of years here as piano teacher and choir leader in Winnipeg and the Icelandic district of North Dakota. Other pupils were: Thruda Backman (now Mrs. Victor Thordarson, of Winnipeg), daughter of Dr. and Mrs. K. J. Backman; Erica Thorlakson (a sister of Dr. P. H. T.

Thorlakson) now Mrs. Eastwold of Seattle, Washington; and Sigrid Bardal, daughter of our member, Paul Bardal, M.L.A.

The fact that so many of Miss Clare's students have possessed outstanding talent, together with her own thorough and painstaking approach to musical values has formed a happy combination and resulted in a record which she and her pupils may well be proud of. In many ways Miss Clare's own career in music has been unique. She came to Winnipeg around 1919 and soon established a class of fine earnest pupils. In 1924 she wrote a book, "Musical Appreciation and the Studio Club," published by Longmans, Green & Co., New York. In 1925 the American Library Association placed it on the list recommended in their "Reading with a purpose," courses, as one of the seven best books for adult musical education.

Miss Clare left Winnipeg in 1929 for advanced study, first in New York, and then in Berlin, with some of the world's best teachers, among them being Lhevinne, Ernest Hutcheson and Isadore Philipps. After this she gave piano recitals in many European cities, winning high acclaim.

Miss Clare blazed a pioneer trail in Winnipeg's musical history with her work for the University of Manitoba School of Music, which is well known to all music lovers, and persons in educational circles in Manitoba and the other Western provinces. When she retired from the position of Director of the School of Music, in 1949, many glowing tributes were paid to her work in this field by the President of the University, and leaders in the field of music.

Periodically Miss Clare takes trips abroad, to England, the United States and Europe. In 1939

she stopped for a couple of days in Iceland, and says she was disappointed to be served uninteresting American food at the Keflavik Airport. "I told them," she says, "that they should come to Winnipeg to taste real Icelandic dishes."

On one of her frequent trips to Europe Eva Clare brought back with her a clavichord made by the master Arnold Dolmetsch, which apart from its musical value, makes it practically a collector's piece. She has given a number of recitals on the clavichord, but the one we enjoyed the most was to hear her play "The Well-Tempered Clavichord," on the lovely sweet-toned instrument in her own spacious and well-appointed studio home at No. 1 Roslyn Place.

—H. D.

VIDIR FOLK GIVE CAR TO JONAS JONASSON

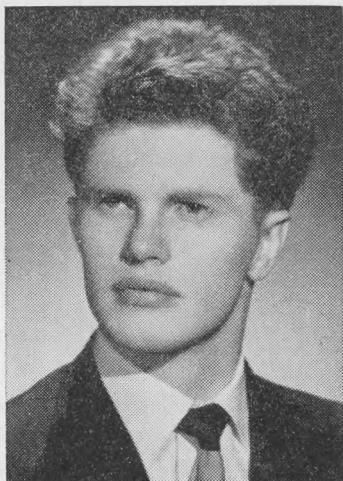
Jonas Jonasson, Vidir, Man., farmer, was presented with a 1952 Plymouth at a social gathering recently in the Vidir community hall. In this way 854 farmers and acquaintances from miles around chose to honor one of their number for over thirty years of generous service as a self-trained veterinarian.

Highlight of the variety program was the presentation of keys to the car by S. Wopnford, reeve of the municipality. Helgi Austman, Agricultural Representative, in addressing the gathering, stated that it was remarkable how much Mr. Jonasson had accomplished in so large an area—and that in so doing he had gained not material wealth but many friends.

Mr. Austman further commented that he had set an example in good farming methods and that largely due to his efforts this area is as well organized as any in the province.

Three Outstanding Students from Iceland

In the fall of 1948 three young men arrived from Iceland to continue their education at the Illinois Institute of Technology. Since that time they have all had brilliant scholastic careers in this country. They are **Steingrímur Hermannsson**, **Thorbjorn Karlsson** and **Runolfur Thordarson**.



Steingrímur Hermannsson

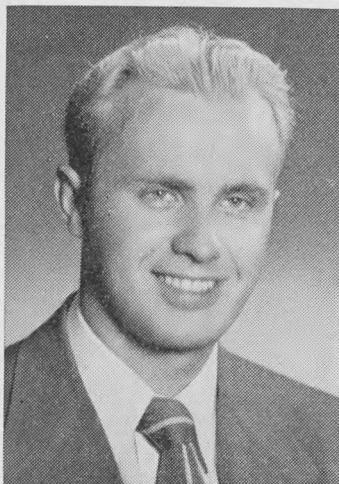
Steingrímur was born in Reykjavík, Iceland, June 1928, and is the son of Hermann Jónasson, former Prime Minister of Iceland and member of the present Icelandic Cabinet, and his wife Vigdís Steingrímsdóttir.

Steingrímur finished the four-year graduate course at the Illinois Institute of Technology, and graduated as a B.Sc. in Electrical Engineering in June 1951. "For outstanding scholastic records" he was initiated by the following fraternities: Phi Eta Sigma—Freshman Honorary Fraternity; Eta Kappa Nu — Electrical Engineering Honorary Fraternity; and Tau Beta Pi—All Engineering Honorary Fraternity. And for athletic activities—Honor I—Athletic Honorary Fraternity.

After graduation he was awarded the Cole Fellowship (of \$1,500) from California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California, which enabled him to spend full time on advanced study in Engineering. In recommending him for the Fellowship, W. A. Lewis, Dean of his faculty, said in part: ". . . He is particularly interested in power systems engineering, and is the kind of student that Illinois Institute of Technology would be most happy to have in this type of program . . . On the basis of both scholastic and personal qualifications, Illinois Institute of Technology is happy to approve the admission of Mr. Hermannsson into the graduate program, and to recommend him for the award of a fellowship under the jurisdiction of the General Education Fund."

Steingrímur received his Master of Science in Electrical Engineering in June. He will go to Iceland this summer with his wife (the former Sara Jane Donovan, whom he married in Chicago in 1951) and their infant son, Bryan. In the fall he will return to America to spend a year with Westinghouse Electric Corporation, which will give him excellent practical experience in his field. He plans to make his home in Iceland and give his native land the benefit of his technical education and experience.

After studying Engineering at the University of Iceland for two years, **Thorbjorn Karlsson** was offered a Fellowship by the American Scandinavian Foundation, in the fall of 1948, to continue his studies at the Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago. He was graduated from there in June, 1950, as B.Sc. in Mechanical Engineering,



Thorbjorn Karlsson

going that fall to the California Institute of Technology for advanced study, and receiving his Master of Science degree in June 1951.

He was awarded the Cole Fellowship for the purpose of studying for a Doctor's degree in Mechanical Engineering. He received his Mechanical Engineering degree in June (an Engineering degree is mid-way between a Master's degree and a Doctor's degree). He plans to return to Iceland this summer where a position has been offered to him.

For his outstanding record in College, Thorbjorn has been made a member of the following honorary fraternities: Pi Tau Sigma—Mech. Eng. Hon. Fraternity; Tau Beta Pi—All Eng. Hon. Fraternity.

Thorbjorn was born in Keflavík, Iceland, in 1927. His parents are Karl Rúnólfsson and Bergthora Thorbjarnardóttir.

Thorbjorn was married in Chicago in December, 1949, to Celeste La Von Lamoreau.

Runolfur Thordarson studied engineering at the University of Iceland for



Runolfur Thordarson

one year, and came to America in the fall of 1948 together with his friends, Steingrimur and Thorbjorn. He received his B.Sc. degree in Chemical Engineering from the Illinois Institute of Technology in June, 1951.

After his graduation he was offered a research assistanceship from the University of Wisconsin, in Madison. He received his M.Sc. degree in Chemical Engineering from that University in June 1952. For his outstanding scholastic record he has been made a member of Tau Beta Pi Fraternity.

Runolfur will go back to Iceland this summer, but may return to the United States for a year or so to obtain practical experience in his field.

The son of Thordur Runólfsson and Sigriður Gísladóttir, Runolfur was born in **Vestmannaeyjar** (Westman Islands), Iceland, in September, 1927. He was married in Reykjavík in the summer of 1950 to Hildur Halldórsdóttir.

Thorbjorn and Runolfur are first cousins, their fathers, Thordur and Karl Runólfsson being brothers. Their grandfather, Runólfur, was a brother of Björn Thorðarson, Ph.D. (dr. Juris),

former Prime Minister of Iceland. Their great-grandmother, Astriður, (mother of Runólfur, Bjorn, and the

third brother, Matthias) was a sister of the eminent Icelandic poet, Matthias Jochumson.

S. K. Hall's New Music

Prof. S. K. Hall has a new book of songs ready for publication. It contains eight songs, the music set to Icelandic lyrics, and accompanied by excellent English translations. The following are the contents (with the name of the translator following the author's name):

Tónninn, by G. A. Stefansson—Paul Bjarnason; **Nafnið**, Str. Thorsteinsson—Jakobina Johnson; **Lof**, H. S. Axdal—H. S. Axdal; **Um Kvöld**, E. P. Jonsson—Prof Skuli Johnson; **Pú Ein**, P. S. Palsson—Paul Bjarnason; **Bros**, Pall S. Palsson—Paul Bjarnason; **Láttu Guðs** **Hönd**, Hallgr. Pjetursson (Passion Hymn), Rev. R. Fjeldsted; (this beautiful song has been sung by choirs for many years, though published here for the first time in a collection of songs), and **Three Icelandic Folks Songs**, translated by Prof. Skuli Johnson.

Prof. S. K. Hall's previous books of songs, **Icelandic Song Miniatures** and **Songs of Iceland**, contain the most beautiful collection of songs by this talented musician and composer. Every one acknowledges that through his work in this field he has added immeasurably to our Canadian culture, not only by enriching it with his music, but also by introducing to the public a variety of Icelandic poems, some of them literary gems, in English translations. No doubt the public will wait impatiently for the publication of this new book.

But unfortunately the public may have to wait indefinitely if every one just sits back comfortably and waits for a sensitive artist to struggle once

again through the financial difficulties of putting on the market a prohibitively expensive book of music, in addition to handling all sales himself. Although his other books have been very well received, it has only been after the worrisome work of publishing and distributing the music, that he has had the assurance that most of his compatriots deeply appreciate his lone effort in this field, to promote among our people an appreciation of our Icelandic (and Icelandic Canadian) poets in song.

It would encourage the artist if the general public would send in their orders now for this new book of songs, so that he may go ahead with confidence and feel assured that the venture will be reasonably successful financially. The cost of publishing a thousand copies will be at least \$500.00. The price per copy will be \$2.00 (which is only 25 cents per song), but the composer does not wish the public to send the payment for the music until it is ready for delivery.

We would urge all those who are interested in getting a copy of the book to send in their orders at once (without prepayment) to **The Icelandic Canadian**, 869 Garfield Street, Winnipeg, Canada, or to Prof. S. K. Hall, Wynyard, Sask. If a reasonable amount of advance orders are not forthcoming, Prof. Hall does not feel that he will go ahead with having the music published, and so another artistic effort will be lost and relegated to oblivion.

H. D.

Rev. Friðriksson Visits America



Rev. Friðrik A. Friðriksson

Rev. Friðrik A. Friðriksson, who is an Archdeacon of the Icelandic State Church and pastor of the Húsavík parish was a welcome visitor to Winnipeg during the first week of June. He came from New York where he had attended as delegate from Iceland to the Rotary International Assembly held at Lake Placid May 14-20. While there he gave an address in the city of Malone to a large group of delegates from various countries who were attending the Assembly. On his return to Iceland he will be installed as Governor for the Rotary District of Iceland, which comprises ten Rotary Clubs.

While in Winnipeg, Rev. Friðriksson gave three addresses—two at the Icelandic churches here and one at the concert of the Icelandic National League. From here he went to Wynyard and to the West Coast, where he was welcomed by former associates, having served in this country as Icelandic pastor from 1922 to 1933, first

at Wynyard for nine years at the Federated Church there, and then for three years in Blaine at the Icelandic Liberal church there.

Besides serving a large parish, Rev. Friðriksson is an outstanding community leader in his district of Húsavík, having served on many community boards, and as chairman of the Hospital committee and the School Board. He has given particular service in the field of music, having organized the male voice choir "Prymir" of Húsavík eighteen years ago and been their director since. He also organized and has led a church choir since 1938. One of his interesting musical activities has been to introduce American folk music and other English language songs to the people of Iceland, and he has translated into Icelandic scores of these songs. These translations are considered excellent and many of them are sung by choirs all over Iceland.

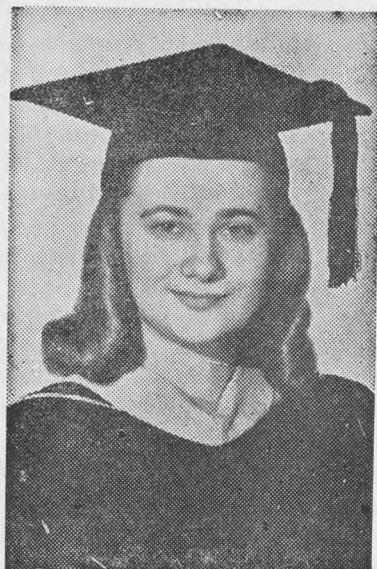
Rev. Friðriksson takes a keen interest in the activities of his compatriots on this side of the ocean and has been a subscriber of the Icelandic Canadian from the beginning. In his final address here he stressed the point that large-scale emigration from Iceland which took place in 1875 and for many subsequent years, and which was considered such a calamity for the country, had proved to be a definite gain for Iceland, as her descendants here were doing much to enhance the prestige of Iceland in the wider world, and had in innumerable ways demonstrated the value of keeping close the bonds between the mother country and the Icelandic descendants here.

Towards the end of this month, Rev. Friðriksson will fly from the West Coast of New York and from thence to Iceland.

H. D.

PIANIST TOURS EUROPE WITH STUDENTS

Miss Martha G. Stefansson, of Philadelphia, Pa., toured music capitals in eight countries of Europe last year with a group of 45 music students and teachers from all over the States. The tour was sponsored by the Music Education Department of Temple University in affiliation with Study Abroad,



Martha G. Stefansson

and was officially called "The Temple University Study Tour to the European Music Festivals."

Miss Stefansson says in her interesting letter: "We all flew over to Europe and back, by Royal Dutch Airlines, and on the way home we stopped in Reykjavík, Iceland, for about two hours. Every one teased me about that, saying that the pilots had been purposely instructed to go to Iceland so that I could say I had been to the land of my father's birth. The only other time we flew on the continent was from Paris to Edinburgh; otherwise we travelled by train or bus.

"We spent five days in Paris, and I am very fond of that city—it is everything they say it is. We also spent five days in Salzburg, Austria, and visited Berchtesgaden, Hitler's Eagle's Nest Retreat in the Bavarian Alps. In Germany we spent most of our time at Bayreuth, to attend the Wagner Festival, but we also visited Rothenburg, Munich, Frankfurt and Heidelberg."

After attending at the music festivals in Salzburg, Bayreuth and Heidelberg, the group split in two, some going on to the Scandinavian countries. Miss Stefansson chose the southern tour, through Switzerland to Milan, Florence and Venice. "I went swimming in the Adriatic Sea," she says, "at the Lido in Venice, the famous beach of the international set. After Assisi and Rome, we went back to Paris via the Italian Riviera, on the 'Rome-Paris' Express Electric train."

Miss Stefansson's varied and interesting musical activities keep her busy. (Her mother, Joanna Piliposkwa, was a Russian coloratura soprano, who had appeared in opera in Vienna and other European centres.) Miss Stefansson has given many separate vocal and piano recitals, and last fall she had the exciting experience of singing Verdi's **Requiem** in a choir with the Philadelphia Orchestra in Carnegie Hall, New York, after giving two performances in Philadelphia. "I had an opportunity to speak with Lorne Monroe, the first 'cellist in the orchestra, who is from Winnipeg and studied in England two years ago," says Miss Stefansson.

"I have shared several recitals with a friend, who has just finished Medicine, but is a very accomplished pianist and has concertized down in Puerto

Rico. He encouraged me to do some due-piano work with him and we included some of these numbers on the program at one of my vocal recitals. We repeated part of this program for a Temple University Benefit Musicale, and part of it was recorded."

Miss Stefansson, a daughter of the

late Dr. and Mrs. Jon Stefansson of Winnipeg, was graduated from Temple University in 1948 with a B.Sc. in Medical Laboratory Technology. She is engaged in laboratory work in Philadelphia. (See Icelandic Canadian, Winter, 1948).

Rev. Eylands President

At the annual convention of the Icel. Nat. League held June 2, 3, and 4th in the I.O.G.T. hall, **Rev. V. J. Eylands** was elected president. He was past president of the League, having served immediately ahead of the retiring president, Rev. P. M. Petursson. New members of the executive are: Prof. F. Gudmundsson, Jon K. Laxdal and Olafur Hallson of Eriksdale, Man.

On the opening day of the meeting a memorial service in honor of the late Sveinn Bjornsson, president of Iceland, was held in the First Lutheran Church with Rev. Eylands conducting the service and Dr. R. Beck as speaker. Two concerts were given during the convention, sponsored by the local chapter "Fron" and the National League respectively, with Rev. V. J. Eylands and Rev. F. A. Friðriksson of Iceland, as speakers.

Following the president's report on the first day, an address was given by Judge W. J. Lindal giving a survey of the work accomplished by the Foundation Committee and the five Winnipeg organizations sponsoring the establishment of the Chair of Icelandic at the U. of M.

A resolution was passed to raise the price of the League's annual publication, "Tímarit", from \$1.00 to \$2.00. It was decided to hold the next con-

vention in Winnipeg in February, 1953.

In an address given on the final day of the meeting Dr. P. H. T. Thorlakson brought forward some constructive ideas on how to unite the cultural efforts of all people here of Icelandic origin, by inviting representatives from various organizations to meet and discuss the possibility of forming one central organization, which would represent, as far as possible, the various societies and clubs, among the Icelanders here, working towards the same cultural ends. This would be in a sense, a direct continuation, on a wider scale, of the co-operation which Dr. Thorlakson brought about when he invited five organizations here to work together to sponsor the establishment of the Chair of Icelandic at the University of Manitoba, and to undertake to raise the endowment fund of \$200,000. Now that the chair has been established as a result of this co-operation, it is evident what may be accomplished when the forces of a number of enthusiastic groups are combined.

Dr. Thorlakson's suggestion was received with great favor, and a resolution was passed asking the executive of the League to institute proceedings in this matter.

GRADUATES AND AWARD WINNERS

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

Dr. of Philosophy

Ingolfur Gilbert Arnason, B. A., U. of M. 1926; M.A. (Man) 1929. Major: Animal Ecology; Minor, Zoology; Thesis "A Survey of the Entomostraca of Manitoba, and a Study of Feeding of Lake Winnipeg Ciscoes (received his degree in October, at the U. of M., (see Icel. Canadian, Winter 1951).

★

Master of Arts

Betty Jean McKenty B.A. (Hons) '51. Major: English. Minor: English Thesis: "The Critical Attitudes of W. H. Auden". She is the daughter of Mrs. Inga Tergesen McKenty and Dr. Jack McKenty.

Stanley Lloyd Baldwin, B.A. 1949 (U of M) Major: Zoology; Minor: Physiology. Thesis: "Some Aspects of Glycolysis in Preserved Blood". Son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Baldwin, formerly of Winnipeg.

★

Master of Science

Baldur Rósmundur Stefánsson, B.S. A., Manitoba, 1950. Major: Plant Breeding. Minor: Statistics. Thesis: "The Inheritance of reaction to Loose Smut in the Segregating Generations of Certain Barley Hybrids."

★

Doctor of Medicine

James Jóhannesson Morrow, son of Dr. J. Morrow and the late Emma Jóhannesson Morrow of Winnipeg.

Margaret Avis Olson

Daniel Peter Snidal, son of Dr. and Mrs. J. Snidal, of Winnipeg

Stephen Charles Thorson

Bachelor of Science In Medicine

Stephen Charles Thorson, son of Charles Thorson, Winnipeg.

Johann John Frederick Johannson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Johannson, Buchanan, Sask.

★

Bachelor of Science (Hon. Course)

Carl Thorsteinson, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Matthias Thorsteinson of Detroit, Michigan.

★

Bachelor of Education

Guðmundur Eric Bjornson, B.A.

★

Bachelor of Arts, (Gen. course)



Wilhelmina Jónsson Mabb, University Silver Medal, daughter of Gísli Jónsson and his wife Þóra Eiriksdóttir Jónsson, Winnipeg, formerly of Gimli.

Joan Oddny Asgeirson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jón Asgeirson, Winnipeg.

Alan Leo Johnson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln Johnson of Winnipeg.

Joyce Ásta Johnson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jón Johnson, formerly of Winnipeg, now in Regina, Sask.

Paul Adalgeir Sigurdson,

Margaret Sigvaldason, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Sigvaldson of Riverton, Manitoba.

Gilbert John Frederick Stefansson, was one of 4 U. of M. students, among a Can. Officers Training Personnel who sailed on the CP liner Empress of Canada for summer training with the 27th Can. Inf. Brigade in Germany. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Halldor J. Stefanson of Winnipeg.

Nora Jean Thorvaldson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Thorvaldson, Wpg.

★

**Bachelor of Pedagogy
(General Course)**

Gudrun Margaret Sigurdson, B.A. Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. Sigurdson of Winnipeg.

Paul Adalgeir Sigurdson, B.A. Son of the late Tryggyi O. Sigurdson and Mrs. Pauline (Thorlakson) Sigurdson formerly of Morden, now residing in Winnipeg.

★

Bachelor of Science (Gen. course)

Arthur Allan Arnason

★

Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy

Swen Johan Tergesen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Tergesen, Gimli Man.

★

Bachelor of Interior Design

Pauline Linda Hallson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hallson, Winnipeg, Man. (See Icel. Can. Winter '50 and Summer '51).

★

Bachelor of Social Work

Margaret Evelyn Goodman, B.A.

Claire Margaret Lillington, B.A., daughter of H. A. Lillington and his wife Kristjana (Johnson) Lillington of Winnipeg, Manitoba.

John Wilroy Haflidason, graduated in Chemical Engineering from McGill University, Montreal, P.Q., son of Mr. and Mrs. Jon Haflidason of Winnipeg. Grandson of Rev. Bjarni Thorarinsson (see "Mayfair's New Editor" in this issue.)

★

U. of M. Undergraduate Awards

Andrea K. Sigurjonsson, Sir James Aikens Scholarship in English, \$85.00; Isbister Scholarship (third year); Honorable mention. Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Sigurjonsson, of Makaroff, Man., and granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Sigbjorn Sigurjonsson of Winnipeg.

Erlingur Kari Eggertson, B.A., Isbister Scholarship \$60.00 (first year Law). Son of Mrs. Thorey Eggertson of Winnipeg and the late Arni Eggertson.

Jon Sigurdson, Isbister Scholarship, \$60.00 (first year Arts and Science). Son of Dr. and Mrs. L. A. Sigurdson, Winnipeg, Man.

Richard Johnson, Isbister Scholarship, \$60 (second year Engineering). Son of Prof. and Mrs. Skuli Johnson, Winnipeg.

★ ★

**GRADUATES IN NURSING,
Winnipeg General Hospital**

Helen Dorothy Sigurdson, awarded the H. E. Sellers Scholarship. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stefan Sigurdson, Riverton, Man.

Dorothy Joan Sigurdson, Keewatin, Ont. (Honorable Mention)

Oddny Ericka Bjarnason, daughter of Magnus and Jonina Bjarnason, Churchbridge, Sask.

Norma Lorraine Ingimundson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. Ingimundson of Winnipeg.

Dorothy Elizabeth Johnson

Jona Johnson

Freida Florence Easy; she was president of the Manitoba Student Nurses

Association. Freda is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Easy of New Westminster, B. C. Her mother Ragnhildur, is a daughter of the late Hinrik Johnson of Ebor, Man, and Mrs. Oddny Johnson, now living in Winnipeg.

★ ★

St. Boniface Hospital Graduates

Claire J. Jonasson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Jonasson of Winnipeg.

Mae L. Laxdal, of Arcola, Sask.

★ ★

Grace Hospital Graduate

Mrs. Isabelle Goodman Cruickshanks, was awarded Gold Medal for proficiency in Obstetrics. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Julius Goodman, St. James, Man.

★ ★

WINS HIGH PRAISE AT ALBERTA MUSIC FESTIVAL



Enid Edwards

Miss Enid Edwards, 19, of Calgary, Alberta, won the Mathews Music House Trophy and a scholarship of \$50.00 by capturing the open piano event at the Alberta Music Festival in May. This is the most coveted and most closely contested of the Festival

trophies, and the adjudicator, Bela Boszormenyi-Nagy, made a distinction of one point between Enid and her friend Sandra Munn.

His decision to place Enid Edwards first with 91 marks was made, he said, because of her special lyrical approach. "I really got the mood of the piece," he said.

Miss Edwards, who is a pupil of Gladys McKelvie Egbert, has won numerous honors for her musical endeavors in Calgary. Among her awards are several Associated Studios medals for outstanding marks at the Royal Schools of Music and Royal Conservatory of Music examinations. In her Grade X, practical (music) examination she received the highest marks in the province of Alberta. She is taking her L.R.S.M. (Licentiate) exams in June. When she made her debut recital at the Allied Arts Centre in Calgary, she was highly acclaimed as being a student of outstanding ability.

Last summer Enid studied piano in a master course with Nagy, who is a distinguished member of the faculty of the Royal Conservatory of Music at the Banff School of Fine Arts. She expects to attend at the School again this summer for further study.

Enid, whose aunts, Laura and Inga Johnson, are members of the Icelandic Canadian Club, is of Welsh and Icelandic descent, her father Gwillym Edwards being Welsh, and her mother, Margaret, being a daughter of the late Hinrik Johnson and Mrs. Oddny Johnson, formerly of Ebor, Man.

Her oldest sister, Irene (now Mrs. Larry Edwards of Three Hills, Alta.) graduated as B.Sc. in Home Economics from Alberta University, Edmonton, in 1949, and served in the extension branch of the University of Saskatchewan for a year before her marriage. Her husband is a B.Sc. in Agriculture.

The other sister, Laura, graduated as B.Sc. in Nursing (University of Alberta). She served on the Public Health Division for a year. She was married this year in Los Angeles to Arthur Edwards, B.Sc. in Agriculture, Washington State College. They live in Calgary.

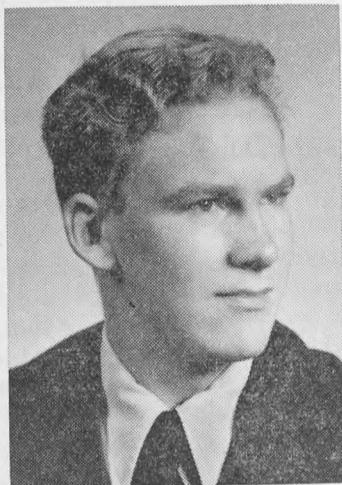
GIMLI MAN GETS VETERINARY RATING

Dr. Johann V. Johnson, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Johnson, Gimli, has been awarded the degree of Dr. of Veterinary Medicine from the University of Toronto.

Dr. Johnson will leave shortly for Springfield, Ill. State Dept. of Agriculture, Div. for Animal Industry.

* * *

CONSISTENT SCHOLARSHIP WINNER



Helgi Lavergne Austman

Helgi Lavergne Austman, who is in his third year Engineering at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, has won four scholarships. In 1950 he won the H. R. Webb Memorial Scholarship of \$150.00, in his first year Engineering. He was also awarded the Cristall

Memorial Scholarship of \$100.00 for highest average in Drafting, and the City of Calgary Scholarship of \$300.00.

In 1951 he received the Viscount Bennett Scholarship.

Lavergne is the son of Sigurjon and Lovisa Austman of Calgary. Mrs. Austman's mother (Mrs. Helga Sveinbjornson who lives at Elfros, Sask.) is a sister of Mrs. (Dr.) Sig. Jul. Johannesson of Winnipeg. Sigurjon's mother, Mrs. Helga Austman, lives at 218 Home Street, Winnipeg.

ACCEPTS FELLOWSHIP



Dr. Sveinbjorn Bjornson

Dr. Sveinbjorn Bjornson, who has been taking a special course in Medical Jurisprudence (Forensic Medicine) at New Britain in Connecticut, has been offered a Fellowship of \$3,000 by the Medical Faculty of Harvard University, for further study in this line.

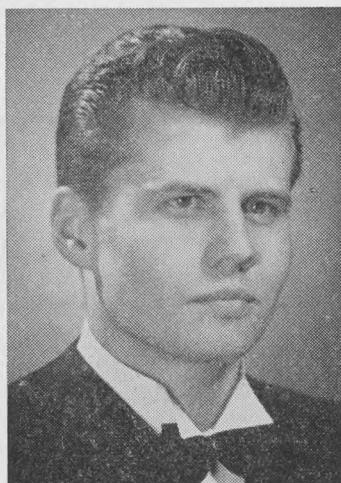
Dr. Bjornson was graduated from the U of M in 1946 as M.D. and served for four years as doctor at Ashern,

Man. He worked one year at the Regina Hospital on research pertaining to his special branch of study before going to Connecticut.

Dr. Bjornson is the son of Dr. and Mrs. S. E. Bjornson, formerly of Arborg, now of Minota. He is married to Helga, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. V. Sigurdson of Riverton, Man. They have two children.

★ ★

WINS GRAND AWARD



William Carl Steinson

William Carl Steinson, young Saskatoon basso, pupil of Mrs. Helen Davies Sherry, whose winning of the Justice Brown Grand Award for Grade A vocalists at the Music Festival, represented vocal supremacy in Saskatchewan. He won the Shield in competition with the southern representative, Marie Gazda, Regina soprano.

William is the son of S. W. Steinson, Ph.D., and Mrs. Steinson. Dr. Steinson is Co-ordinator of Guidance of Learning Program at the Provincial Normal School in Saskatoon. He was guest speaker at the annual concert of the Icelandic Canadian Club in 1951 (see Icelandic Canadian, Spring, 1951).

WINS HAWORTH SCHOLARSHIP

Raymond Thorsteinson, a graduate student at the University of Kansas, won the 1951 Erasmus Haworth award for Geology. The award as announced last December by Robert M. Dreyer, professor of geology, at a joint meeting of the Geology Club and the American Institute of Mining Engineers.

The Haworth awards are annually presented to outstanding senior, graduate and distinguished alumni in the field of geology and related subjects.

Raymond, who was chosen on the basis of activity, scholastic achievement and general proficiency in geology, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Petur Thorsteinson of Wynyard, Sask., received his B.Sc. degree from the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, and his M.Sc. degree from the University of Toronto.

Thorsteinson is at present a candidate for a doctorate in geology at the University of Kansas.

POSTED TO RCAF BASE IN ENGLAND

Arthur Swainson, 471 Home St., University of Manitoba law student and an officer in the University Training squadron of the RCAF has been posted to an RCAF fighter base in England for a 4½-month training course with seven other university students from across Canada.

The only Manitoban in the group, Arthur, a member of the Icelandic Canadian Club, is a second-year law student and is connected with the firm of Lamont and Burlak. He made the trip to England by air from Dorval Airport, Montreal, via Iceland.

Arthur is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ingi Swainson of Winnipeg, formerly of Glenboro, Man.

Greetings from Our Readers

The Icelandic Canadian has received a number of letters from readers who remembered that, with this issue, the Magazine would be ten years old. We wish to thank all those who sent greetings and reader-comment from various parts of this continent, and from Iceland. It is impossible to publish all letters, as they are very numerous, but they are carefully filed away, and gratefully acknowledged.

Anniversary Greetings

"I congratulate you sincerely on this tenth anniversary of The Icelandic Canadian. It has surely done a great deal to preserve Iceland's contribution to this pioneering period in the Western world. You people who have worked so diligently deserve all the credit our people can give you . . ."

Jakobina Johnson, Seattle, Wash.

"I think you and your assistants have done wonderful work in connection with the publication of The Icelandic Canadian. That Magazine is now the best connecting link between the pioneers and many of their more distant descendants, whose knowledge of their rich inheritance from Iceland may be limited . . . The Icelandic Canadian brings that to them. It will be of great assistance to the Icelandic Chair in perpetuating and extending the Icelandic culture . . . With kindest regards and best wishes always to you and to The Icelandic Canadian . . ."

Gudmundur Grimson, (Justice of the Supreme Court, Bismarck, N. D.)

"My congratulations to The Icelandic Canadian and to all the staff on the occasion of its tenth anniversary. The work that has been accomplished through the Magazine, and the influence it has wielded in welding to-

gether the cultural efforts of all Icelanders on this continent, is beyond measure, and will be realized more and more as the years pass . . ."

S. K. Hall, Wynyard, Sask.

"I wish to extend my heartiest congratulations to the Icelandic Canadian Magazine on the occasion of its 10th anniversary. I would also like to express my appreciation to the editor for her many other cultural achievements . . ." **Guttermur J. Guttermsson**,

Riverton, Manitoba.

"I wish to express my congratulations on the tenth anniversary of The Icelandic Canadian, to all the staff for the excellent work that has been done in bringing before the public valuable information about the life and the activities of the Icelanders in North America.

"There is only one suggestion I would like to make. It does not stand to reason to sell the magazine for one dollar a year. Two dollars could be considered little enough by those who wish to keep in touch with the cultural activities of their national group in this hemisphere and elsewhere. If many there be who consider this small subscription rate too much for the privilege of gleaning the widespread historical and current information published in The Icelandic Canadian, and acquainting themselves with the literary works of our people, then it is indeed time that we quench the light and close the shutters on our cultural activities here.

My best wishes go to the Magazine for continued success, and I hope it may enjoy the services of the present editor for many years to come . . ."

Arni Sigurdsson,
Seven Sisters Falls, Man.

Messages from Iceland

(From "Lesbók" Morgunblaðsins): "The article "Erfiðleikar landnemans," (Peace River Pioneer) is from The Icelandic Canadian, the magazine of the Western Icelanders. The story, by Magnus G. Guðlaugsson, is much longer than the article published here in "Lesbók," and appears in two issues of The Icelandic Canadian. As we have mentioned before, this magazine is published for the purpose of preserving the contact between Icelanders on both sides of the Atlantic, even though the Icelandic language should gradually disappear on the west side. People here in Iceland should follow more closely and support this venture, and that would best be done by buying the Magazine and also by sending to it informative articles about the land (Iceland) and the people. That would definitely be much appreciated. The present editor is Hólmfríður Danielsson . . ." (Lesbók, April 20).

"I have enjoyed very much reading The Icelandic Canadian. I dwelt for a time at the West Coast, particularly in Blaine, and am much interested in reading about the Western Icelanders in your magazine, which appears to me to be a very strong factor in maintaining the contacts between the Icelanders in the West. Your work in publishing this magazine is extremely worthwhile and highly commendable. The journal is of a high class . . ."

S. Danivalsson,

Iceland Tourist Bureau, Reykjavík.

"I read in "Lesbók" a part of the article by Magnus G. Guðlaugsson, taken from your excellent magazine, The Icelandic Canadian. An elderly woman who dwells in my home is a sister of Olína Jónsdóttir, Magnus' wife, whom she has not heard from for a great many years. It would be

a great favor if you would send us the address of Mr. and Mrs. Guðlaugsson.

"Your magazine is splendid. I want to thank you for the outstanding work you are doing for Iceland, and in bridging the gulf between the brothers and sisters on two sides of the ocean."

Pórður Tómasson, Vallatún,
Rangárvallasysla, Iceland.

(NOTE: The address has been forwarded.—Ed.)

"Everyone here likes The Icelandic Canadian very much. But those who do not read English regret that all this information and literature is not available to them in the Icelandic language . . ."

Olöf Sigurðardóttir,
Reykjavík, Iceland.

Briefs from Reader-Comments

"I am doing now what I have been intending to do for a long while—subscribing for all other members of the "tribe"—they should all be life-subscribers, anyway! And I don't see how you can continue such a fine publication at just a dollar a year. Please let me know promptly if there has been an increase in price. With very best wishes . . ."

Valdimar Bjornson, Minneapolis
(State Treasurer of Minnesota)

"When my good friend Lauga Geir presented me with a subscription to The Icelandic Canadian, it was no doubt one of the best presents I have ever received. I enjoy the articles very much . . Your feature on the Thor-darsons was extremely well written."

Mrs. Arnetta Moncrief,
De Witt, Arkansas

"The Icelandic Canadian is a very good magazine. For me, the article "Peace River Pioneer" was one of the

best. It is a true story of the triumph of a pioneer . . . Your carefully detailed genealogical information (ættar tölur) about the Icelandic descendants here is an historical treasure—worth much more later on . . . ”

Guðm. S. Johnson,
Glenboro, Man.

“I must compliment you highly on a really excellent publication . . . I should say that the Icelandic people must be very proud of having a magazine like that to keep them informed of what they are doing as well as keeping alive their fine national feeling. They must be proud, too, at having such fine talent in charge of the production . . . ”

J. P. deWet, Secretary,
Man. Chamber of Mines, Wpg.

“The Icelandic Canadian Magazine has contributed a very worthy service to the people here of Icelandic origin by acquainting them with historical facts about the country, about the early Icelandic pioneers, about their descendants, and about the Icelandic poets and other persons of prominence. All this would be lost to us if it were not for The Icelandic Canadian getting these facts together . . . ”

Joseph Olafson, Morrisville, Pa.

“My daughter was just thrilled to get a complete set of The Icelandic Canadian. She says they sat up until all hours of the night reading avidly.”

(Mrs.) Jona Axdal, Vancouver

(Space does not permit any more reader-comments, but we wish to thank every one for their appreciation and understanding.—Ed.)

IN THE NEWS

AWARDED GOLD MEDAL



Stephanie Paulson

Stephanie Paulson was awarded the Gold Medal at Humbercrest Public

School Oratorical Senior Contest, sponsored by the Humbercrest Home and School Assoc. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Magnus Paulson of Toronto, Ont. Granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bjarnason, Winnipeg, Man.

★ ★

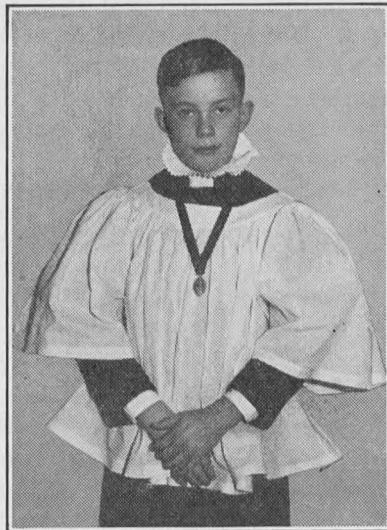
Dorothy Mae Jonasson, who has been studying violin during the past year at the Royal Conservatory of Music, Toronto, on a tuition award of \$250.00 from the Conservatory, is home for the summer holidays.

She played three numbers at the annual concert of the Icelandic National League in the First Lutheran Church, June 3, and her friends here were delighted to observe what rapid strides she has taken forward in her musical development during her year of study in Toronto. Dorothy was

awarded the Jon Sigurdson, I.O.D.E. Scholarship in 1948.

★ ★

INSPIRING PERFORMANCE OF BOY SOPRANO



Master Michael Bildfell

At a festival of Choristers of different choirs of the Protestant churches of Montreal held at Chalmers-Wesley United church, Master Michael Bildfell, 12, leading Choir boy of the Church of the Advent, Westmount, was guest soloist.

Michael met with tremendous success as he rendered "Panis Angelicus" by Cesar Franck, "I know that My Redeemer Liveth" by George Frederick Handel and the difficult "Alleluyah" by Mozart. All the critics spoke very highly of the young soloist.

Michael Bildfell has received an offer to join the Choir School of St. John the Devine Church, New York for this coming September. He has been singing with a choir since the age of 5 years. His ambition is to be another Caruso.

He is the son of Dr. and Mrs. J. A. Bildfell of Montreal, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Bildfell of Winnipeg.

APPOINTED ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL



Jon K. Laxdal has been appointed assistant principal of the Manitoba Normal School in Winnipeg. He has been on the staff since 1947, having his B.A. degree and B. of Ed. degree (1947) from the U. of M.

Jon was elected president of the Icelandic Canadian Club at the annual meeting in May, and has served ably on the Editorial Board of the Magazine for three years. He was also elected to the executive of the Icelandic National League in June. (For further particulars about his career, see Icel. Can. Winter, 1949).

★

GIFT FROM ICELAND: \$20,000

Dr. A. H. S. Gillson, president of the University of Manitoba, has announced that the Government of Iceland has allotted the sum of \$20,000 to the Chair of Icelandic language and literature at the University. Two payments on this sum have already been made to the University.

SECOND NEW YORK RECITAL

Miss Snjolaug Sigurdson gave her second successful New York piano Recital at Carnegie Recital Hall, April 26. It was very well attended and the critics were laudatory in their reviews, the *New York Times* saying, in part:

"In her recital yesterday at Carnegie Recital Hall, Snjolaug Sigurdson again showed that she is a sensitive and well trained pianist, with an affinity toward smaller forms.

"There was some agreeable playing in Mozart's "Unser dummer Pöbel meint" Variations, where Miss Sigurdson's fingers deftly traced the fioritura. In Chopin's F. minor Fantasy, too, there was an honest musical impulse. Occasionally Miss Sigurdson was hard-pressed to make her technical points, but there was enough style and warmth to compensate".

Besides Mozart and Chopin, Miss Sigurdson included in her program Brahms' "Ballade, Op. 118, No. 3"; the Schumann "Romance, Op. 28, No. 2" and "Novellette, Op. 21, No 2"; "Prelude and Fugue in D major" by Bach-D'Albert; "Valses nobles et sentimentales" by Ravel; and the Prokofiev "Sonata, Op. 28, No. 3".

Miss Sigurdson presented twenty of her junior students in a piano recital at Steinway Hall, June 7, and this recital was also favorably commented on, *The Brooklyn Eagle* noting that:

"One of the pleasant annual spring recitals was that given by Snjolaug Sigurdson, Canadian concert pianist and teacher now living on Park Slope, at Steinway Hall on Saturday. . . ." The review goes on to give the names of the students who were from six to 12 years, and gives some detail of their performance.

Snjolaug's debut recital was given in

New York March 12, 1950. She has also given large public recitals in Brooklyn (see *Icel. Can. Spring 1950*).

★ ★ ★

I.O.D.E. SCHOLARSHIP

The Jon Sigurdson Chapter, I.O.D.E., has for a number of years awarded a music scholarship to a student in the University of Manitoba School of Music. The chapter is most anxious that students all over Manitoba, who are taking the U. of M. School of Music examinations, should know about this scholarship and avail themselves of this fine opportunity offered to students of Icelandic extraction, in the specified grades and studies. The revised conditions of the scholarship are as follows:

A scholarship of \$50.00 is for award annually in the University of Manitoba School of Music, to a student of Icelandic extraction who obtains the highest standing (not less than 70%) in piano, violin, voice or violincello, in grades VI to XI inclusive.

Applicants must apply not later than September 1, on a special form, obtainable from the Registrar of the University of Manitoba.

★ ★ ★

Wilhelm Kristjanson was sent as fraternal delegate from the Man. Govt. Emp. Ass'n, of which he is first vice-president, to the annual convention of the Sask Civil Service Ass'n, held in Regina May 15 and 16. Mrs. Kristjanson accompanied him. They flew to Regina and back.

★ ★

Stefan Hansen, F.S.A., formerly group actuary, has been appointed director of group insurance of the Great-West Life Assurance Company. Mr. Hansen was a member of the editorial staff of the Icelandic Canadian from 1942 to 1944.

AMERICAN SCIENTISTS IN ICELAND



Dr. Helgi Johnson, is at present in Iceland conducting a group of Civil engineers in surveying various parts of Iceland. Helgi is a graduate of U of M, 1926, received his PhD. in Toronto and is at present head of the Science Dept. at Rutgers University. He has worked for the British Govt. in Newfoundland and on loan to Washington. He is the son of Mr. Gisli Johnson of Winnipeg and his late wife Gudrun, who was well known among the Icelanders for her short story writing.

★ ★

Miss Joan Jonasson, one of the younger members of the Icelandic Canadian Club, and 1951 graduate of the Winnipeg General Hospital, was one of three graduates who served on the Journal Committee of the Nurses' Alumnae Annual (Magazine) of the Winnipeg General Hospital Alumnae Executive, 1951-52.

The annual is 72 pages and gives

the reports of Alumnae activities, news items about members, two or three short medical articles, the president's message and a foreword by another of our members, Rev. P. M. Petursson.

An unique feature of this issue is a list of all graduates from the first graduating class of 1889, down to the present time, giving the present name and address of each. This list covers 47 pages of the magazine and has entailed an immense amount of work and letter writing.

Joan received a special vote of thanks from the Alumnae for her outstanding work on the magazine.

She is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oli Jonasson, who are also members of the I.C.C., and a granddaughter of the late Johanna and Pétur Petursson, formerly of Lundar, Man.

★ ★

GOOD LUCK, GOOD FISHING THEME OF GIMLI FESTIVAL

The unique and colorful Lake Winnipeg Fishermen's Festival to wish God's speed to fishermen, was held recently in the Gimli Park pavilion.

The first ceremony of its kind in this community, it saw more than 500 worshippers from Hecla to Winnipeg, including all the Icelandic fishing colonies on the west shore of the lake, gathered to pay tribute to fishermen and wish them good luck, and good health.

With the wishes went prayers, on the eve of their departure to their stations on the northern end of the lake, for a safe home-coming.

Pastor Harold S. Sigmar, of Gimli, delivered the sermon, "The Friend of the Fisherman," pointing out the hardships endured by the stout-hearted men who left their homes and families

behind while they sought their living on the lake.

The pioneer minister, Rev. R. Martenson, read a prayer and delivered the closing message and benediction.

Guest speakers were Mayor Barney Egilson of Gimli, and Premier Douglas Campbell, who was introduced by Dr. S. O. Thompson, M.L.A., Gimli.

A joint choir from Riverton and Gimli took part in the service, under the direction of J. Palsson, with Mrs. C. Stevens at the organ. Other program items were a violin solo by J. Palsson, and a vocal duet by Mrs. Franks and V. Benedicktson.

The 90-minute service was broadcast by radio station CKY.

★ ★

ELECTED TO OFFICE

At the annual convention of the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire, held at the Royal Alexandra hotel April 7, 8, and 9th, **Mrs. H. F. Danielson** and **Mrs. B. S. Benson** were elected to the Provincial Council. Mrs. Danielson was also re-elected to the office of Assistant Educational Secretary, and as a member of the First War Memorial Scholarship committee. The I.O.D.E. is the largest women's organization in Canada, and most active in the promotion of education and welfare.

★ ★

Paul Bardal, M.L.A. was elected honorary president of the Undertakers' Ass'n at their convention held at the Fort Garry hotel May 21.

★ ★

WINS ROTARY CONTEST

Miss Norma Crawford won second place and a prize of \$75.00 in the finals of the annual Rotary Club Ottawa and district high school public speaking contest held during the weekly lunch-

eon, March 24. She is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Julius S. Crawford of Ottawa. (See Icelandic Canadian, Winter, '48, and Winter, '51.)

★ ★

Dr. T. J. Oleson has received a letter from the secretary of the Department of Education in Reykjavík, informing him that the sum of three thousand crowns has been allotted to him for further historical research.

★ ★

HOTEL MANAGER



Wallace Duncan Bjarnason, who has been employed with the Leland Hotel for the last 25 years, has been the Manager of the hotel for the last three years. Wallace was born at Arborg, Man., the son of Mr. and Mrs. P. K. Bjarnason, and grandson of Stefan and Guðrún Gudmundsson, early pioneers in the Ardal district of New Iceland. Wallace was married in 1930 to Margaret Thorvardarson, of Arborg. They have a married daughter and a teenage son, who was outstanding in championship rugby with Daniel McIntyre Collegiate. Wallace was a keen hockey player in amateur leagues, both in Arborg and Winnipeg.

Draumalandið - Land of Dreams

By Guðmundur Magnússon

Translated by Sig. Júl. Jóhannesson

Ó, leyf mér þig að leiða
til landsins fjalla heiða
með sælu sumrin löng.
Þar angar blóma breiða
við bliðan fuglasöng.

Þar aðeins yndi fann ég,
þar aðeins við mig kann ég,
þar batt mig tryggða band,
því þar er allt sem ann ég,—
Það er mitt draumaland.

I only there found pleasure
And perfect life,—full measure
—God's favored land it seems—
And there is all I treasure.
It is my land of dreams.

ICELAND'S THOUSAND YEARS

The most popular and highly informative short account of the history and literature of Iceland. The book, 174 pages with 24 illustrations, is a series of lectures given at the Icelandic Canadian Evening School, during the first year of the school. It has been ordered by university libraries all over the world, and some two thousand copies have been sold. Price: copies bound in heavy manilla paper, \$1.00 each; handsomely bound copies, with gold lettering, \$2.00 each. Order from Mrs. H. F. Danielson, 869 Garfield St., Winnipeg, Canada.

SCHOLARSHIP OFFERED

through the Icelandic Canadian

The Success Commercial College of Winnipeg offers a scholarship to a bright student of high school standing, to attend their six-month Day School course. Applicant please contact the Business Manager of the Magazine, 869 Garfield St., Winnipeg, phone 38 528. Do not delay, as the applicant with suitable standing and qualifications will be accepted. See advertisement on page 59 in this issue.

I. C. C. ANNUAL MEETING

The majority of the members were present at the annual meeting of the Icelandic Canadian Club held May 26 at the Lower auditorium of the First Federated Church.

Reports of officers and conveners showed that the past year has been outstandingly successful in every way with added membership and 160 new subscribers to the magazine. Two new members were welcomed at the meeting—Mrs. Linette Penhallurick and David Bjornson. There is one member who lives at Lundar—Mr. Felix Sigurdson, high school principal there, who feels that in this way he is giving his support to the club although he can only rarely attend meetings.

President's Report

The president, W. Kristjanson, reported that eight meetings had been held during the year. Some of these have already been reported in the magazine, and will not be enumerated in detail here.

The first function of the season was Snjolaug Sigurdson's Recital, Sept. 10, given in aid of the Scholarship Fund. At a farewell gathering for Thora Asgeirson, in the First Federated Church, a scholarship of \$1,700 was given to her by her many friends and admirers, through the Icelandic Canadian Scholarship Fund.

At the October meeting a beautiful nature film, "Prairie Wings," was shown, and a talk on that subject given by Frank Ward, of Ducks Unlimited. This was followed by a vocal duet: Mrs. Lilja Thorvaldson and Miss Evelyn Thorvaldson, accompanied by Miss M. Toohey; a social hour and refreshments.

At the November meeting an honorary life membership was presented to Dr. Rúnólfur Marteinsson. This was reported at the time in the magazine. In January a business and social meeting was held, at whch Professor Finn-bogi Gudmundsson was formally welcomed by the club and gave a brief talk. The members also had the opportunity of listening to the historic broadcast of Hon. Winston Churchill.

The annual banquet and dance in the Marlborough Hotel, January 25, was highly successful, with a record attendance. Professor F. Gudmundsson was guest speaker, being introduced by Professor Skuli Johnson, honorary president of the club. Miss Sigrid Bardal gave a group of piano solos and also accompanied Alvin Blondal, well known baritone and radio announcer, in a group of vocal solos. Jimmy Gowler's Orchestra played for the dance and master of ceremonies was Mr. Hart Devenney, of the Manitoba Department of Physical Education.

At the February meeting Walter (H. V.) Larusson gave a very enjoyable talk on his visit to Iceland and the Icelandic community in London. Master Neil Bardal gave piano solos and Albert Halldorson, tenor, sang, accompanied by Mrs. W. Kristjanson. Over one hundred members and their guests attended this meeting.

Dr. I. Gilbert Arnason gave an address at the April meeting: **Parasites Big and Small**, and there was an accordion solo by June Elliston. Social activities of the club have been especially popular, with games, music and movies at all the general meetings, or with folk dancing directed by trained leaders from the Department of Physical

Education. A group of eight students from the Normal School have attended two meetings to demonstrate square dancing and to lead the various sets as all present participated.

The Icelandic Canadian Club, together with the other four organizations sponsoring the Icelandic Chair, participated in the reception which was held in the First Lutheran church to welcome Professor Finnbogi Gudmundsson, December 10.

Mrs. Runa Jonasson, convener of the Social committee, reported that refreshments had been served at all meetings. She and her committee were given a special vote of thanks.

Editor's Report

In this issue of the Magazine there is a brief review on "Our Magazine: Ten Years," by W. Kristjanson. There is also a column containing some of the many greetings we have received from readers.

The Magazine has doubled its size in the last few years. It started out with 40 pages and now runs from 64 to 72 pages. Actually the amount of material published has much more than doubled, for during the first few years from 8 to 13 pages were devoted to a pictorial record of War Service personnel. The scope and variety of the material has broadened immensely and this has found great favor with the readers.

Although the name of the Magazine is "The Icelandic Canadian," our compatriots on the other side of the border can consider it to be their own journal, too, for their history and activities are well represented in its pages. During the last year two full length articles have appeared, giving the historical background of two pioneer families in North Dakota, and enumerating

the past and current achievement of their descendants who are by now scattered to various parts of the United States.

Readers are very thoughtful in sending in information and interesting leads, which when followed up often forms the basis for the shorter features and biographical sketches in the Magazine. To supplement this material with as much historical data as possible which will greatly enhance its value for future reference, entails constant research and correspondence.

Contributors to the Magazine include the very best talents we have in the field of writing, and constitutes too long a list to include here. There have also been contributions from eminent writers who are non-Icelandic and who have gladly given their time and talents to this volunteer effort.

The Magazine has the support of persons eminent in letters and cultural leadership among our own people and among others who consider this purely voluntary venture as unique in cultural enterprises. Those who are sincerely interested in perpetuating here the Icelandic literary heritage and cultural traditions have given us whole-hearted support and constant encouragement, and our readers assure us that the Magazine has succeeded in reaching a high standard of literary excellence. For all these expressions of good will and commendation we are grateful.

In the editorial report last year were a few examples showing the wide assortment of Icelandic Canadian articles that had been reprinted by other publications in various parts of Canada, United States and Iceland. Translating and reprinting from the Magazine is becoming more and more popular in Iceland, as the people there are most anxious to keep up with current activities of the Icelandic descend-

ants here, and to learn about their past history. From every one of the recent issues of the Magazine we find that shorter and longer articles have been translated in papers and magazines in Iceland, notably in the *Lesbók "Morgunblaðsins"* *Lesbók* published the second half of the "Thordarson Reunion" (in North Dakota) and the "Peace River Pioneer," by M. G. Gudlaugson.

Owing to the fact that the present editor of the Magazine, as Director of the Icelandic Canadian Evening School, made contacts with persons all over the country who wished to study Icelandic or learn about Iceland, many specific requests in this line come regularly to the Magazine. Thus we have continued to send out Icelandic lessons and lesson plans, books and pamphlets pertaining to Iceland, and other printed material on Icelandic literature. We have obtained and distributed, on request, specific information to a score of persons other than Icelanders, who have been doing research in some branch of Icelandic studies, or to teachers and educators who have been assembling material for school programs or radio. In the future work of this nature will no doubt be handled by an extension department of the Icelandic Chair. We have innumerable letters of thanks from various parts of Canada and the United States from authors, students, University graduates and professors who have been doing research and have been aided through the Icelandic Canadian Magazine; as well as from the Manitoba Department of Education, the CBC, for assistance to the Winnipeg staff in connection with broadcasts dealing with Icelanders. Your present editor had the pleasure of collaborating with the CBC staff writer, Ray Darby, on the historical radio drama on Iceland which was

broadcast from coast to coast June 17, 1944, and Judge W. J. Lindal, your editor at that time, was guest speaker on that program.

The club members are no doubt happy to know that their Magazine has been such a success, and that it is taken for granted generally that it will continue to flourish. But it is not wise to take too much for granted. The club must be prepared to replace the editor or other members of the Magazine staff who may find it necessary to relinquish these positions.

I wish to thank the present members of the staff: Judge W. J. Lindal, Heimir Thorgrimson, H. J. Stefanson, Jon K. Laxdal; Misses Mattie Halldorson, Stefania Eydal, and Margret Petursson; Mrs. Grace Thorsteinson and Hjalmur F. Danielson, for the splendid co-operation they have given me and for their genuine spirit of comradeship in this work. We regret that Heimir Thorgrimson and Margret Petursson cannot, owing to other duties, serve with us on the staff for the next year, but are happy that Grace Thorsteinson will be with us in the news department, now that the offices of Business and Circulation Manager have been combined. We wish to welcome a new member to the editorial staff, Dr. Askell Löve, Icelandic botanist appointed last summer as Associate Professor of Botany at the University of Manitoba. A man of keen intellect and having a sincere interest in our work, he will be a definite asset to the staff.

Tribute Paid to Magazine Staff

A bouquet of roses was presented to Grace Thorsteinson for her ten years of service as business manager of the Magazine; and honorariums were presented to Holmfridur Danielson, editor, and H. F. Danielson, for their outstanding work on the Magazine.

A vote of thanks was given to the retiring president, W. Kristjanson; to other officers and committees; and to the Magazine staff as a whole.

A cheque for \$250 was received from the estate of Bjarni Skaftfeld, as initial payment on the legacy of \$500 he bequeathed to the club last year.

It was decided to combine the offices of business and circulation manager of the Magazine.

Prof. Skuli Johnson, honorary president, spoke briefly and expressed his pleasure at how the Magazine had expanded, as to size and material. He stressed how valuable the Magazine was in publicizing the Icelandic Chair, and how we must all be public relations agents to get young persons interested in enrolling in this course at the University.

Dr. R. Marteinson, honorary life member, addressed the meeting and voiced his congratulations on the cultural work the club is doing which would "have far-reaching results."

Following the business meeting little Ronald Sveinson entertained with an accordion solo, the Normal School group led the dancing, and refreshments were served.

Election of Officers

Prof. Skuli Johnson, honorary president; Jon K. Laxdal, president; W. Kristjanson, past president; Halldor J. Stefansson, vice-president; Ingibjorg Johnson, secretary; John Myrdal, treasurer; Executive Committee: Dr. L. A. Sigurdson, Steinunn Bjarnason, H. V. Larusson, Mrs. H. F. Robinson, and the Editor of the Icelandic Canadian by virtue of her office.

Social Committee: Mrs. O. Jonasson, Mrs. A. Vopnfjord, Mrs. J. Bergman, Mrs. J. T. Beck, Miss Lillian Eyolfson, Mrs. H. Martinson, Miss Naomi Samson.

Membership: Mrs. G. Gunlaugson, Helgi Olsen, Miss Alexandra Samson, together with the treasurer and circulation manager of the Magazine, by virtue of their office.

Scholarship Committee: Paul Bardal, Holmfridur Danielson and Judge W. J. Lindal. Publicity: W. Kristjanson. Auditor: Miss Steinunn Bjarnason.

Icelandic Canadian Magazine Staff-Editors: Holmfridur Danielson, chairman, Judge W. J. Lindal, H. J. Stefansson, J. K. Laxdal and Dr. Askell Löve. News Department: Stefania Eydal, Mattie Halldorson and Grace Thorsteinson. Business and Circulation Manager: Hjalmur F. Danielson.

TRUMPETER SWANS

ARE RETURNING

Trumpeter swans, one of the world's rarest wild fowl, have returned to Victoria waters for the first time since 1949. Government naturalists say this is partly due to an increase in the numbers of the birds and that it may mean the swan has won its fight against extinction.

Only a few years ago, the black-billed trumpeter was thought almost wiped out. But this year a survey by R. H. Mackay, Dominion Wild Life officer for B. C., showed at least 900 trumpeter swans in B. C. with other flocks thriving in Montana and perhaps western Alberta.

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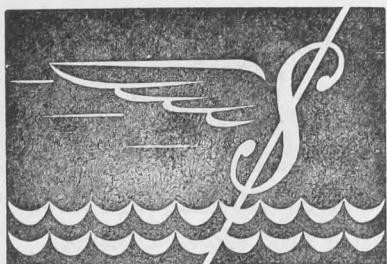
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